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PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

ENTER: THE
HERMIT!



MILGROM

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

HERMIT-AGE!

THE PIGEONS IN NEW YORK CITY ARE A HARDY BREED. THEY'RE OVERFED AND ARROGANT, AND RARELY MAKE WAY FOR ANYTHING.

BUT EVEN THESE BLASE' BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLY AWAY TOGETHER WHEN THEIR ROOSTING SPOT IS INVADDED BY... THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!



STORY
A. MILGROM

PENCILS
H. TRIMPE

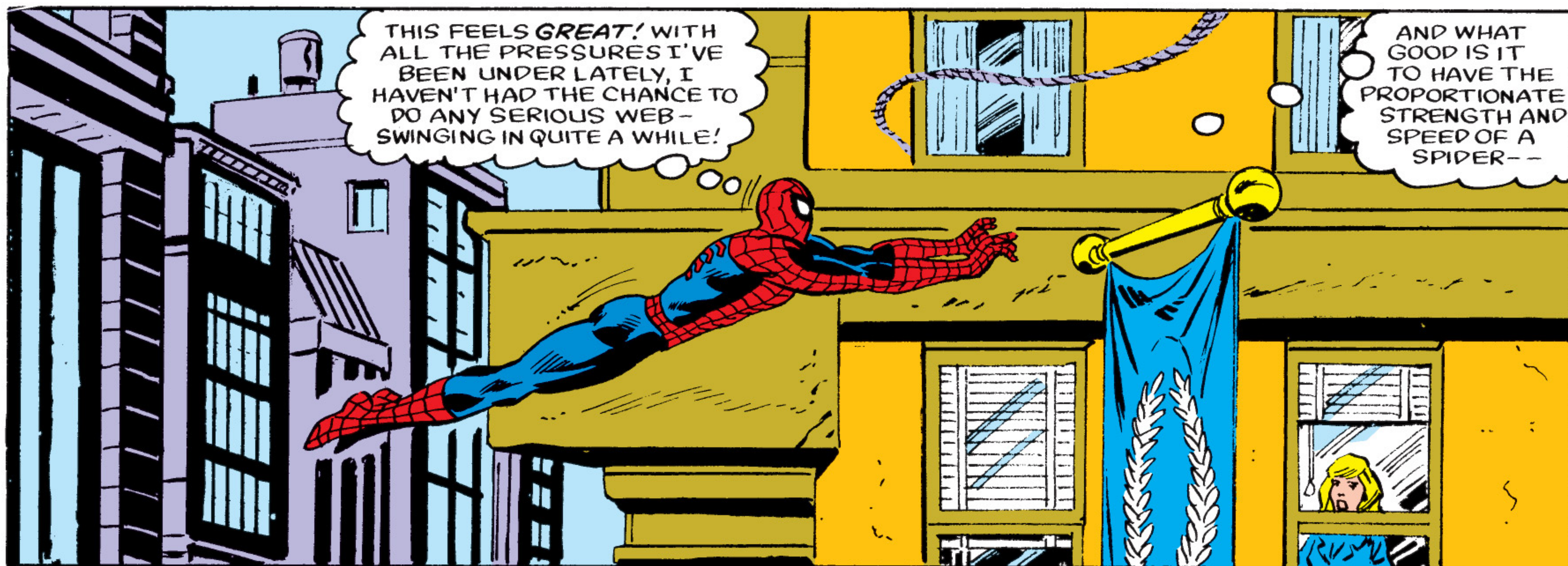
INKS
J. MOONEY

LETTERS
J. CHIANG

COLORS
B. SHAREN

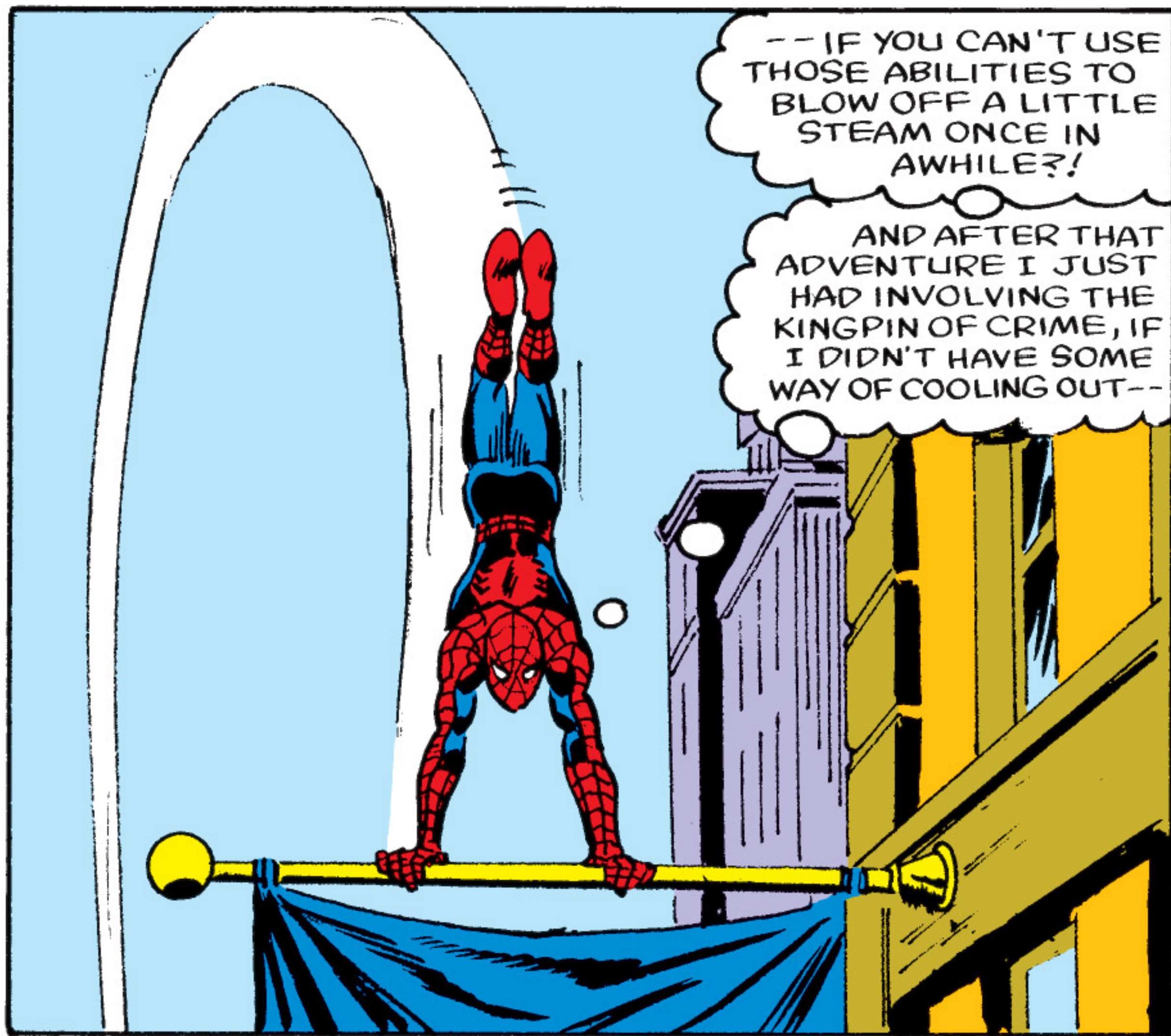
EDITOR
D. FINGEROTH

LOOKED
OVER (OR
OVERLOOKED)
BY:
J. SHOOTER



THIS FEELS GREAT! WITH ALL THE PRESSURES I'VE BEEN UNDER LATELY, I HAVEN'T HAD THE CHANCE TO DO ANY SERIOUS WEB-SWINGING IN QUITE A WHILE!

AND WHAT GOOD IS IT TO HAVE THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND SPEED OF A SPIDER--



-- IF YOU CAN'T USE THOSE ABILITIES TO BLOW OFF A LITTLE STEAM ONCE IN AWHILE?!

AND AFTER THAT ADVENTURE I JUST HAD INVOLVING THE KINGPIN OF CRIME, IF I DIDN'T HAVE SOME WAY OF COOLING OUT--

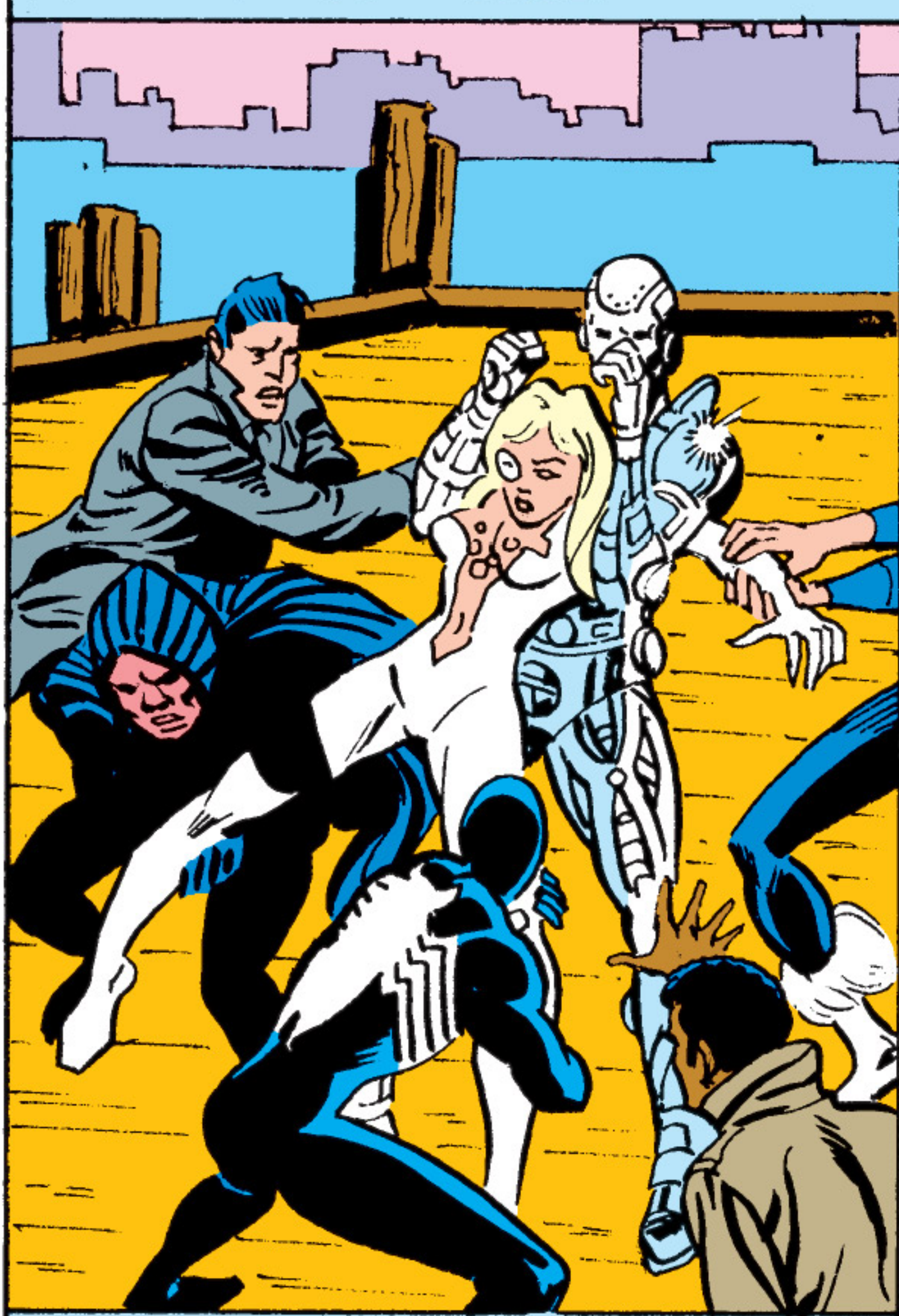


-- I'D JUST FEEL LIKE GOING BACK TO BEING PETER PARKER, SEMI-EMPLOYED NEWSPAPER PHOTOGRAPHER, FULL-TIME.

I STILL CAN'T GET OVER THE TWISTS AND TURNS THAT LAST CAPER TOOK ME THROUGH...

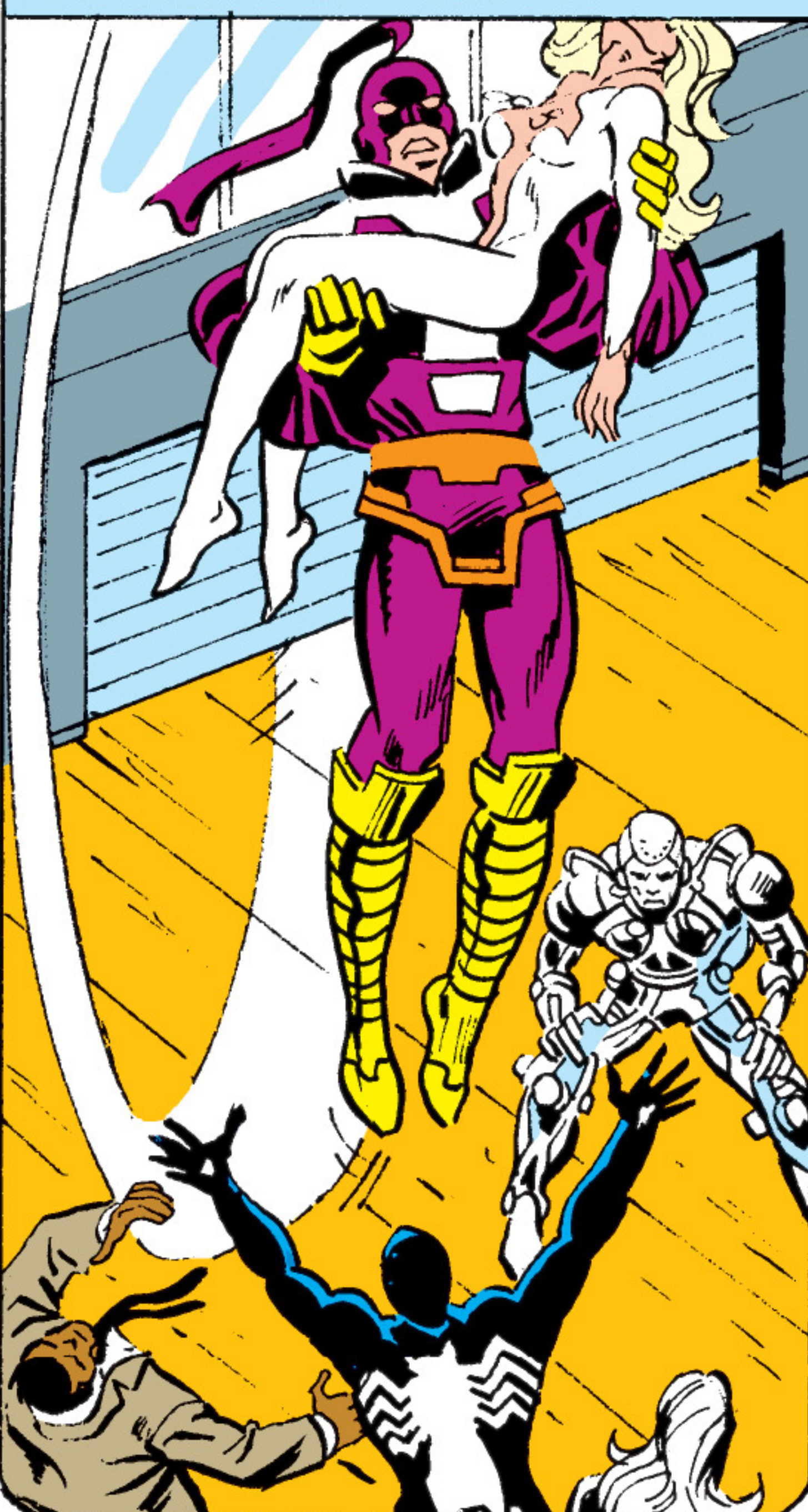
FIRST, SILVERMANE, THE BIONIC-BODIED CRIME LORD WHO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD, WAS RESTORED TO LIFE.

"BUT HE CAME BACK AS A MINDLESS MONSTER OF DESTRUCTION, THAT SOMEHOW SOUGHT OUT DAGGER, WHOSE LIGHT KNIVES HAD 'KILLED' HIM IN THE FIRST PLACE.



"JUST WHEN THE BLACK CAT AND I AND DAGGER'S PARTNER, CLOAK, WERE FIGHTING TO FREE THE WEAKENED DAGGER FROM SILVERMANE'S GRASP--

"ANOTHER SUPER-POWERED WEIRDIE NAMED *THE ANSWER* SWOOPED DOWN AND GRABBED THE POOR GIRL FROM ALL OF US!

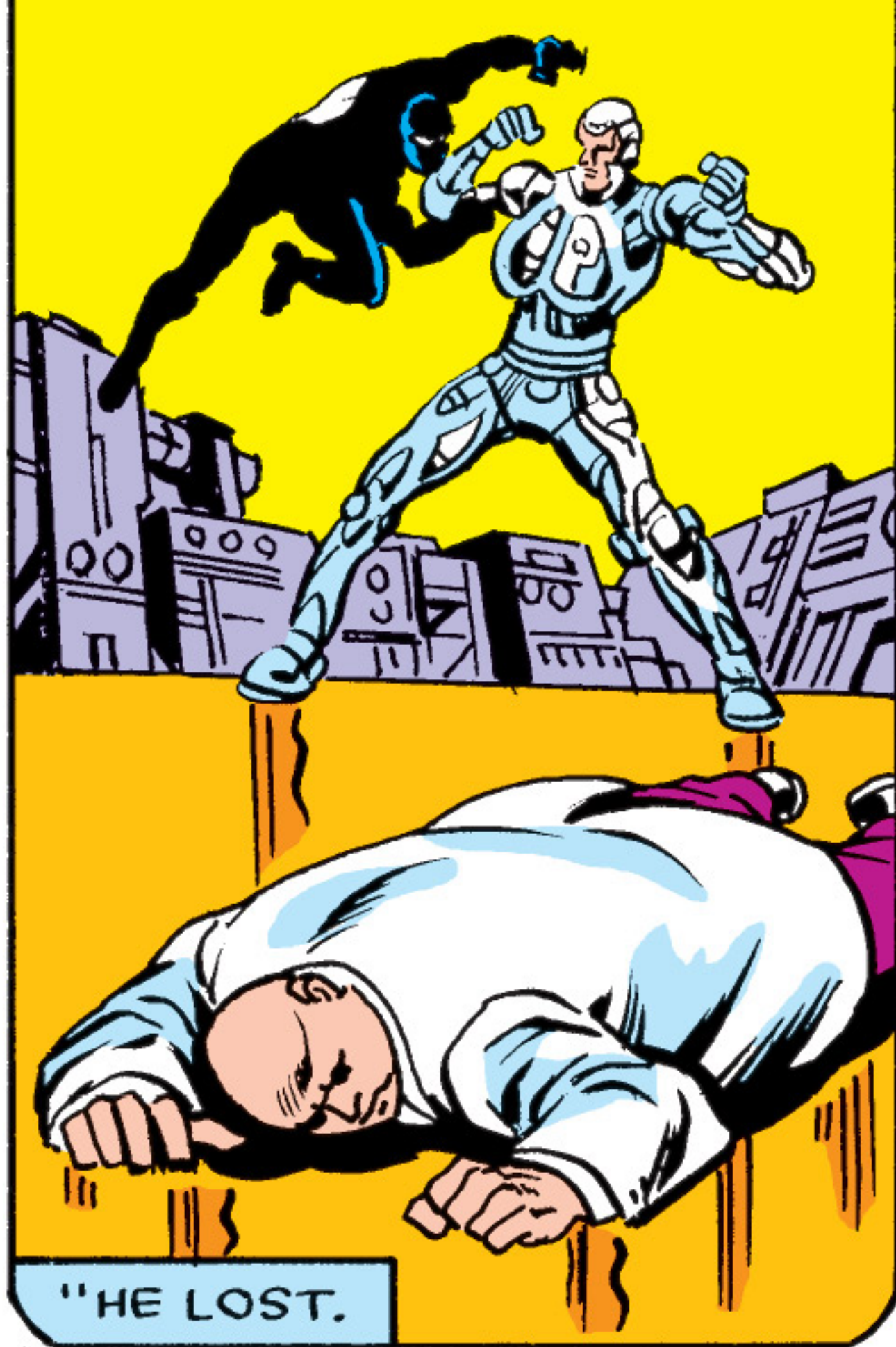


"WE TRACKED THEM TO THE KINGPIN'S HEADQUARTER'S WHERE A MAJOR DONNYBROOK ENSUED--



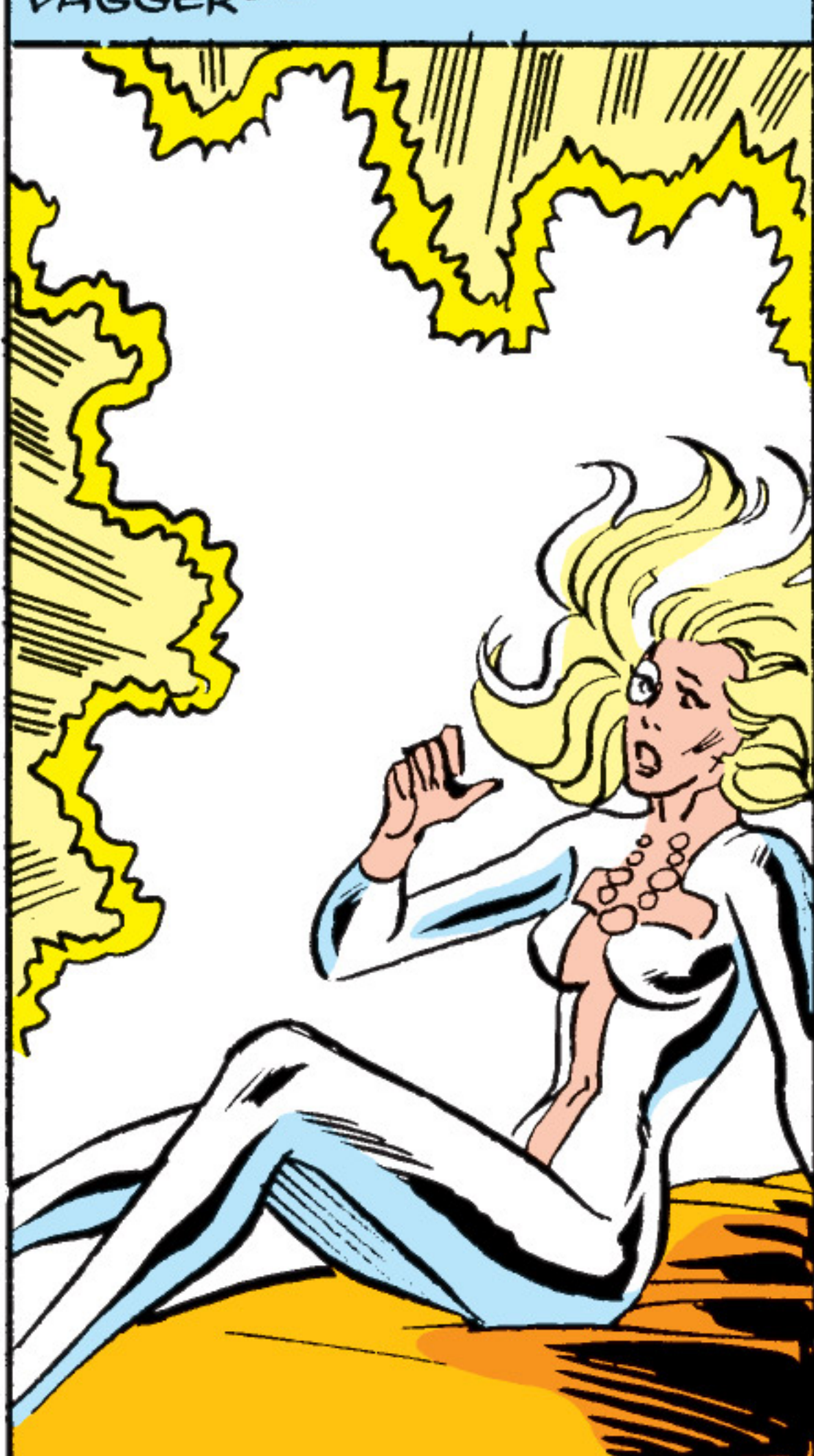
"THE KINGPIN WANTED DAGGER TO USE HER LIGHT POWERS TO RESTORE HIS WIFE TO FULL HEALTH AND SANITY--

"-- AND HE FOUGHT SILVERMANE TO KEEP THE BIONIC BADDIE FROM TAKING THE LAST OF DAGGER'S LIGHT FROM HER!



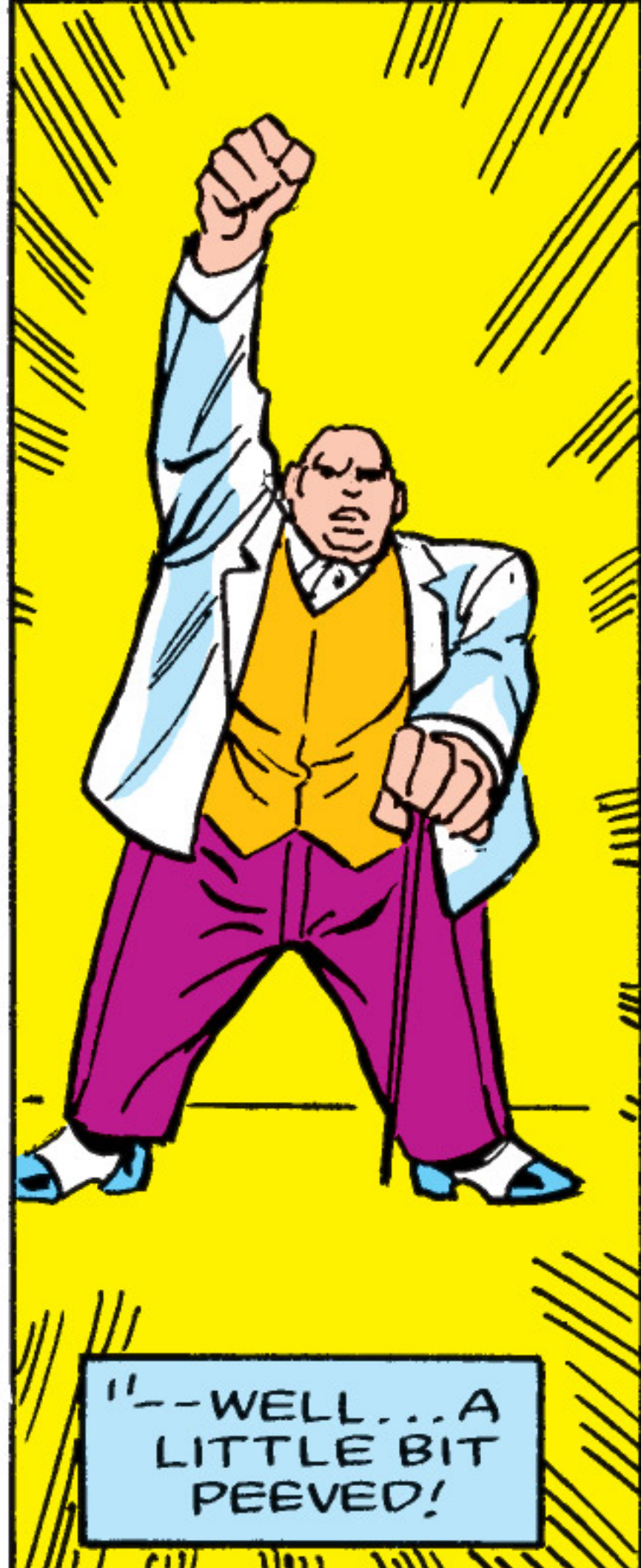
"HE LOST."

"AND WHILE I WAS TRYING TO STOP SILVY, THE ANSWER SACRIFICED HIS OWN LIGHT-- AND LIFE-- TO RESTORE DAGGER--



... WHO IN TURN GAVE SILVERMANE BACK THE LIGHT SHE HAD TAKEN FROM HIM, RESTORING *HIS* SANITY, ENDING HIS RAMPAGE!

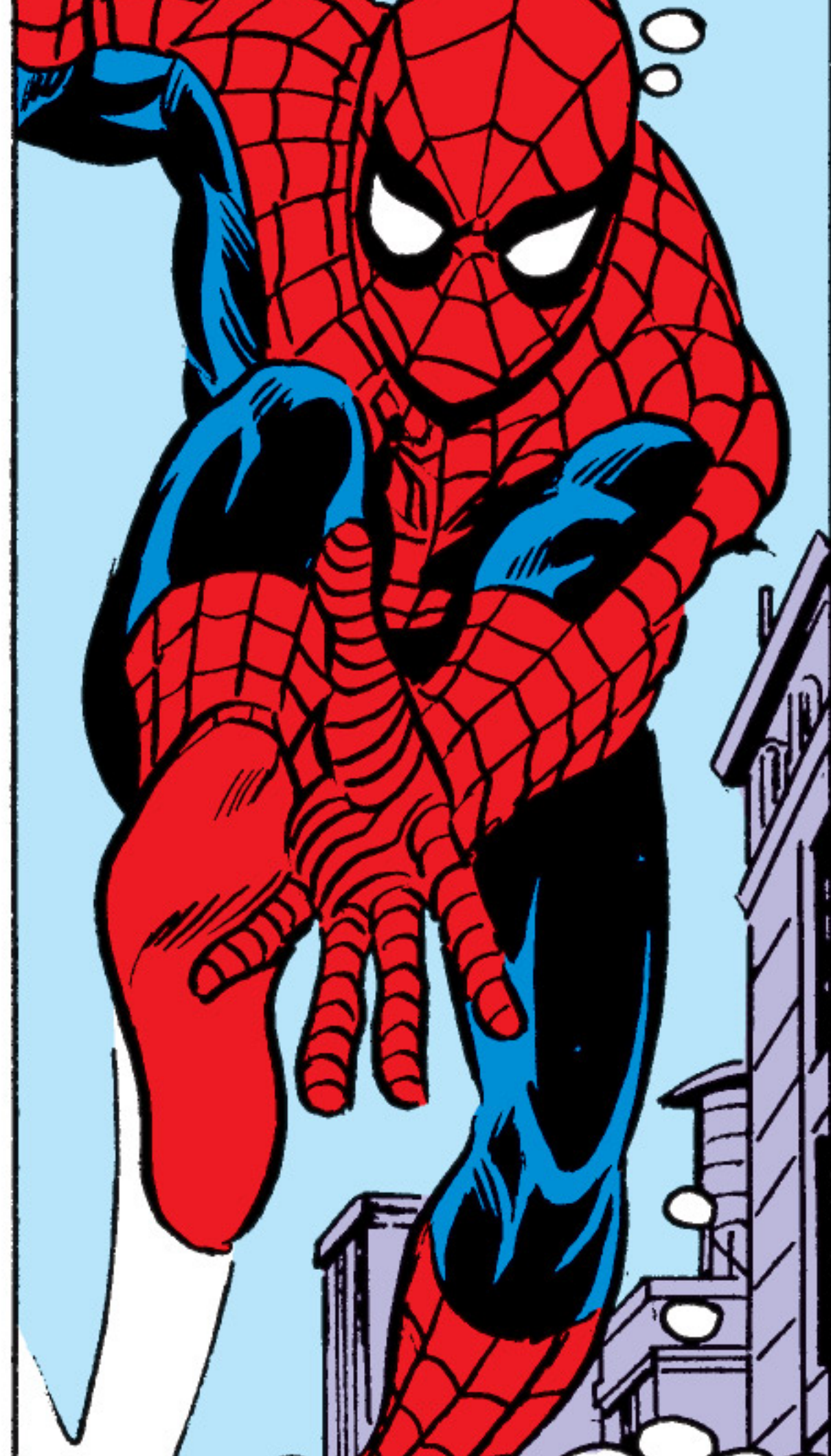
"BUT BECAUSE DAGGER DIDN'T ALSO RESTORE HIS WIFE, THE KINGPIN WAS--



"--WELL... A LITTLE BIT PEEVED!"

"HE SWORE VENGEANCE AGAINST THE CAT AND ME."

WHY HE BLAMED *US* FOR HIS TROUBLES IS BEYOND ME!



SHEESH! SOME GUYS ARE JUST NEVER SATISFIED!

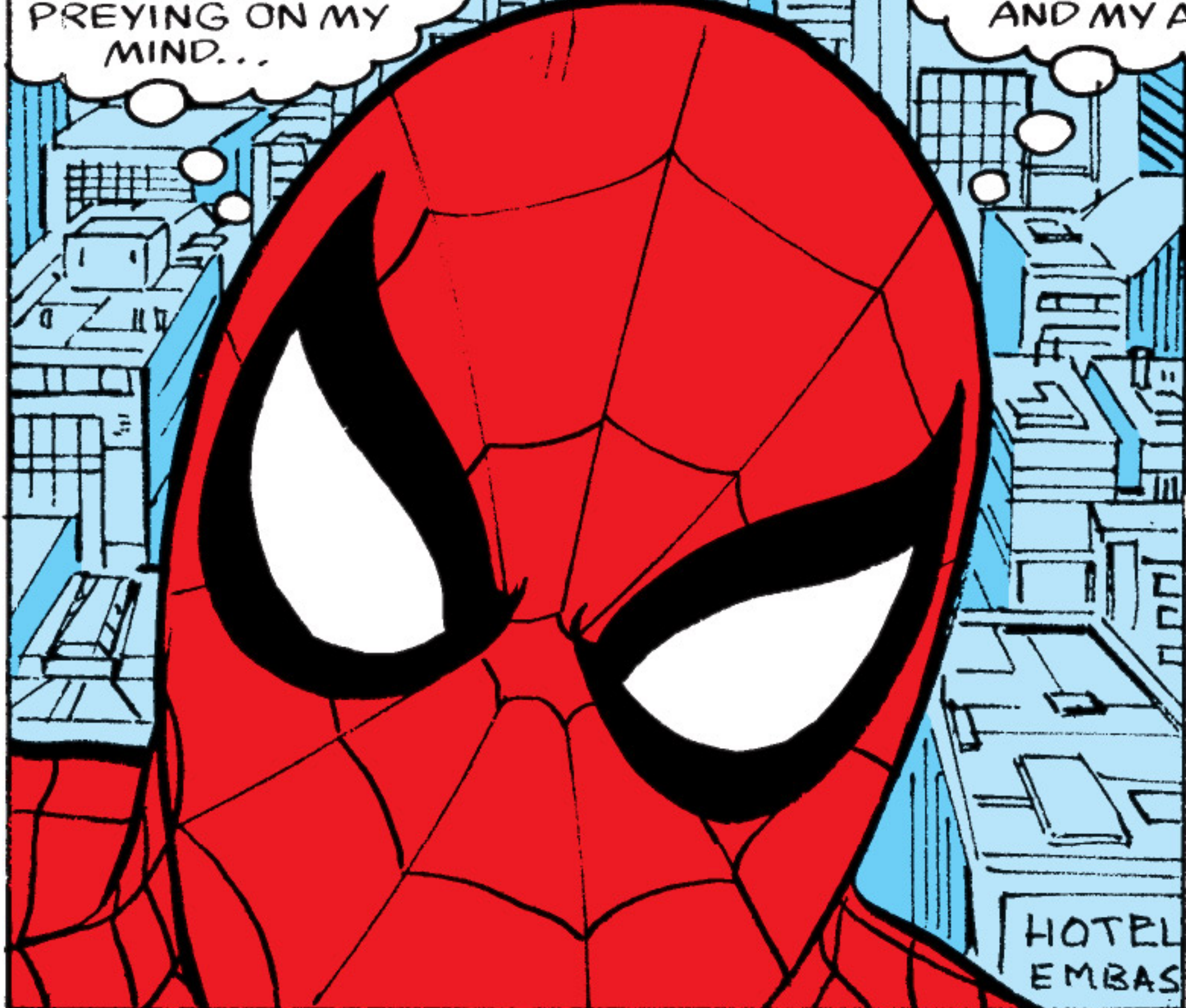
TAKE ME FOR INSTANCE, THE ANSWER IS GONE, THE KINGPIN SUFFERED SOME SERIOUS SET-BACKS, AND WHILE THE THREAT OF SILVERMANE STILL EXISTS--

AT LEAST HE'S NO LONGER A WANTON ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION CRUSHING EVERYTHING IN HIS PATH.



Jettie Cola
THE *NEW* SOFT DRINK
... THAT TASTES LIKE A MILLION BUCKS!

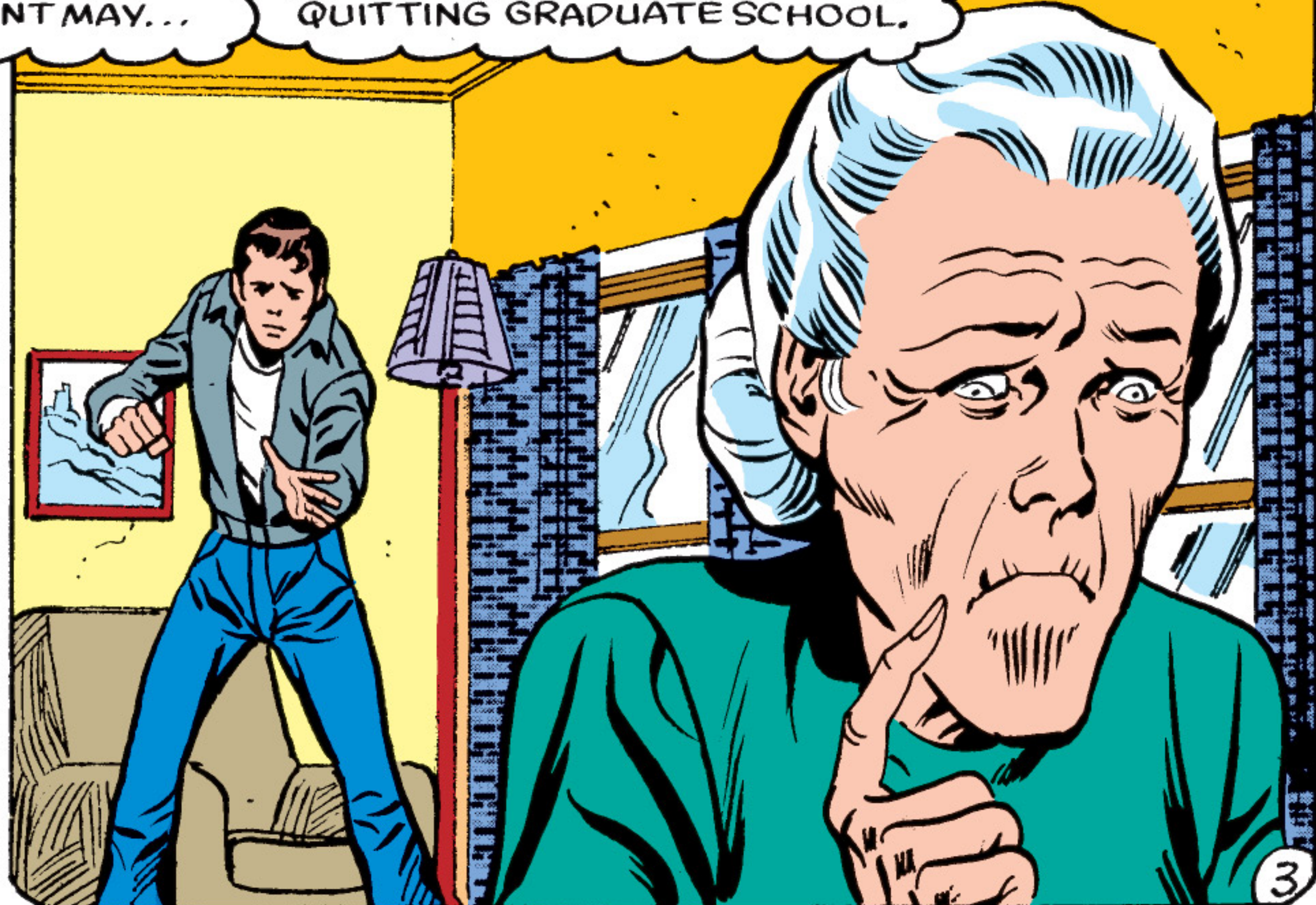
BUT MY OWN PETTY PROBLEMS KEEP PREYING ON MY MIND...



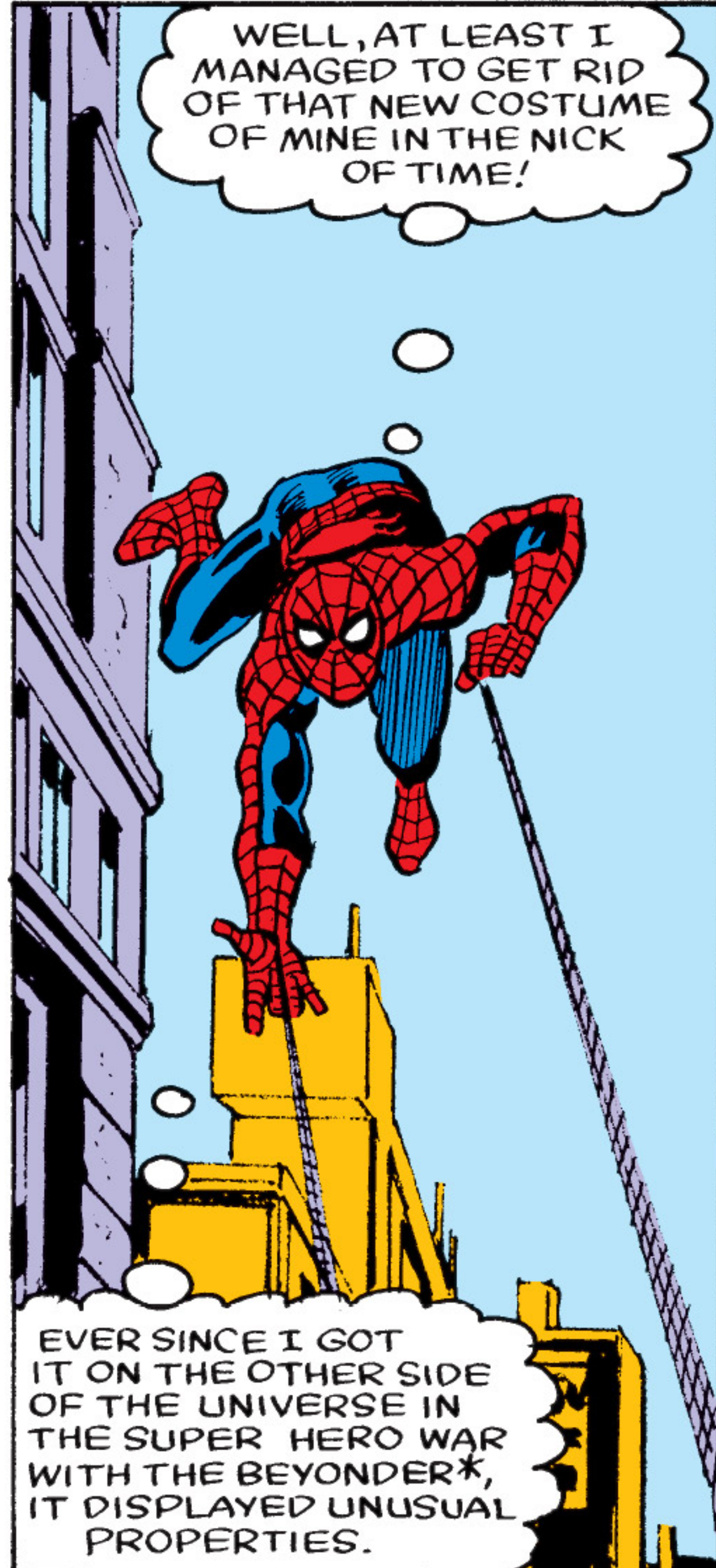
HOTEL EMBAS

LIKE THE RIFT THAT'S FORMED BETWEEN ME AND MY AUNT MAY...

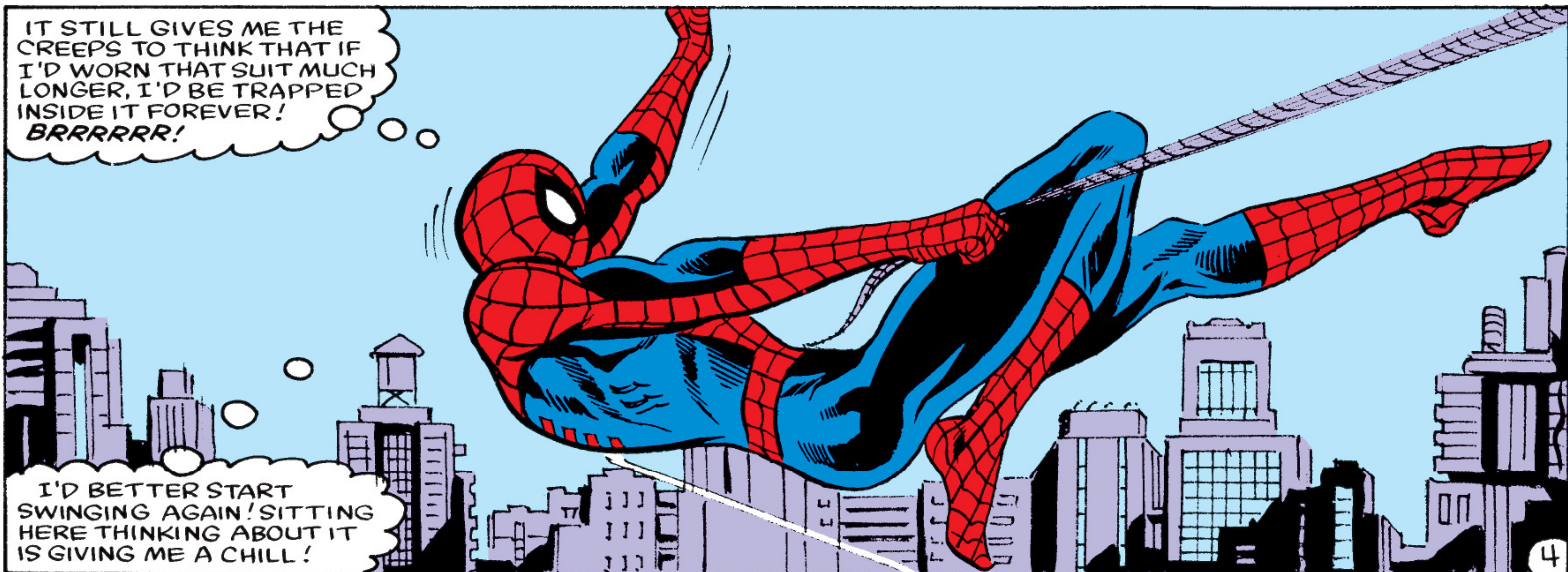
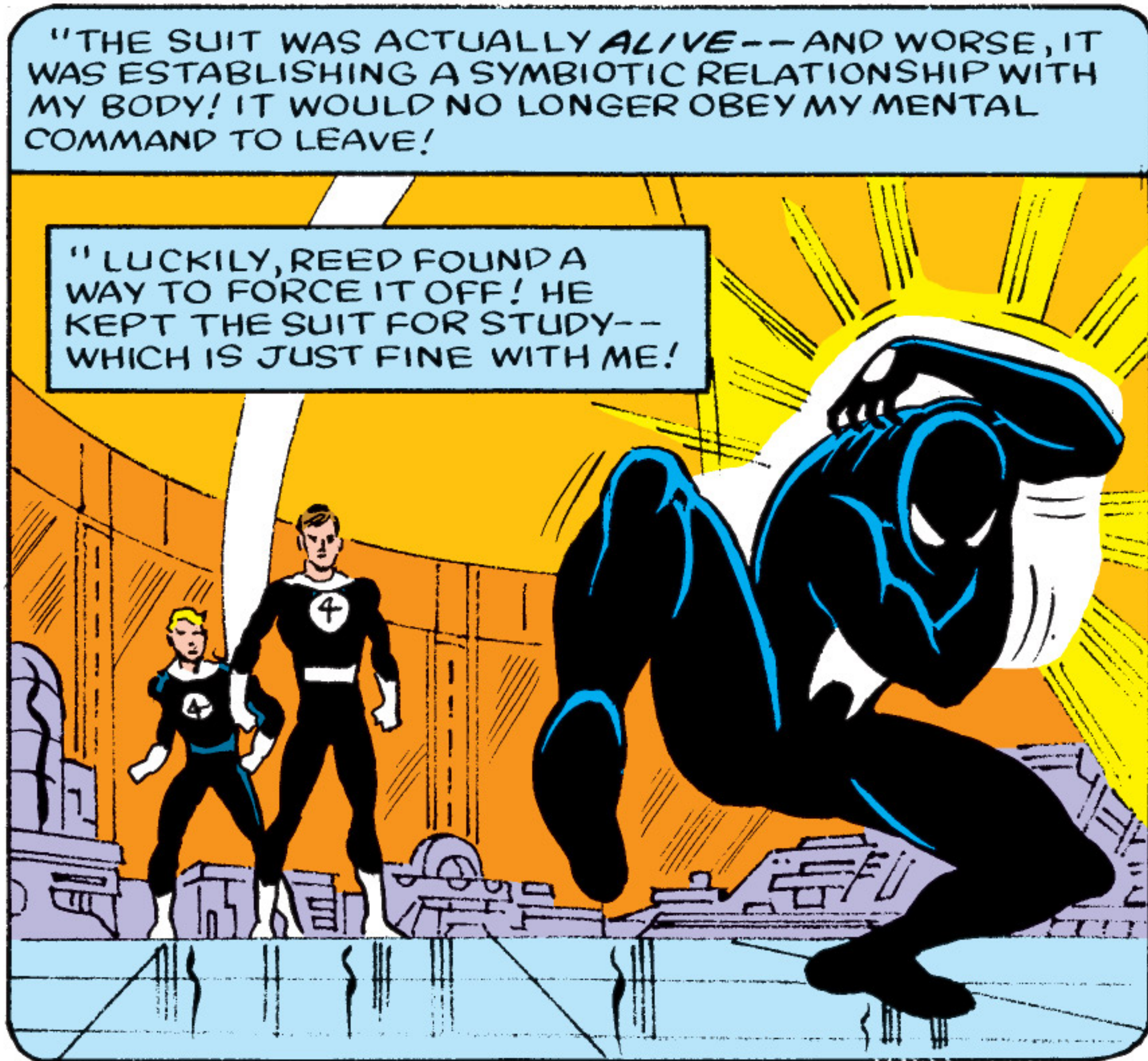
SHE'S BEEN UPSET WITH ME EVER SINCE I TOLD HER I WAS QUITTING GRADUATE SCHOOL.

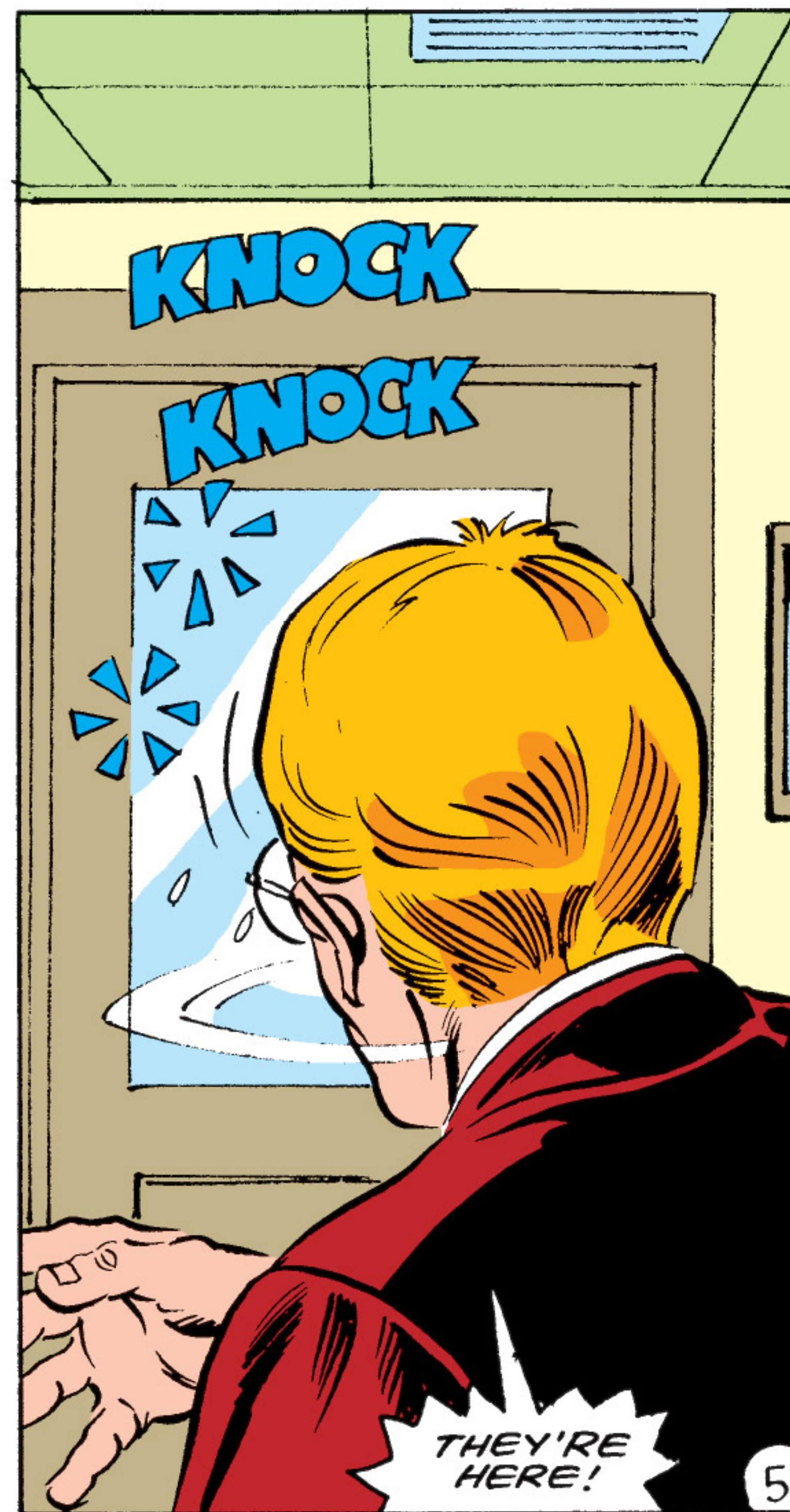
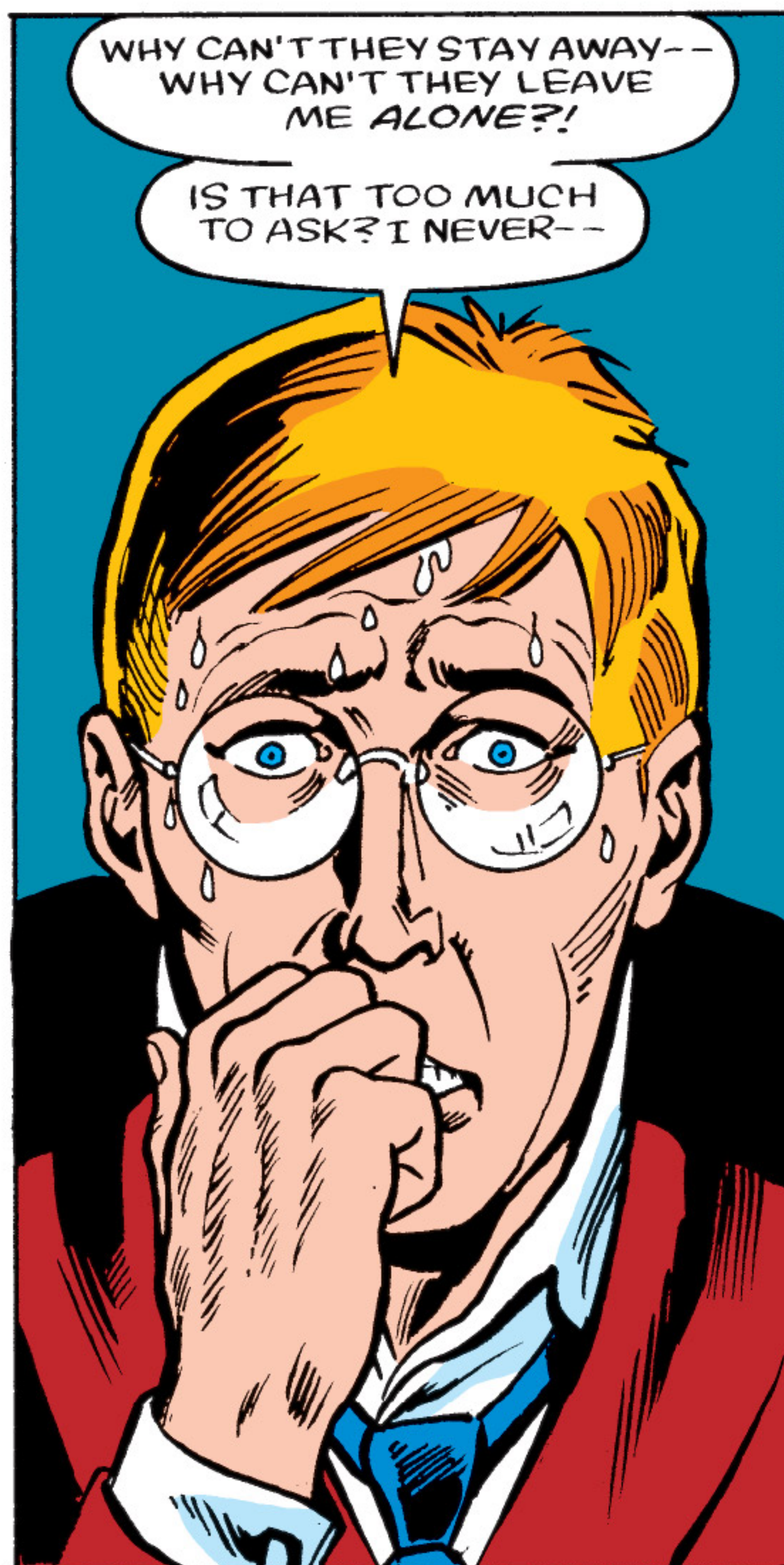
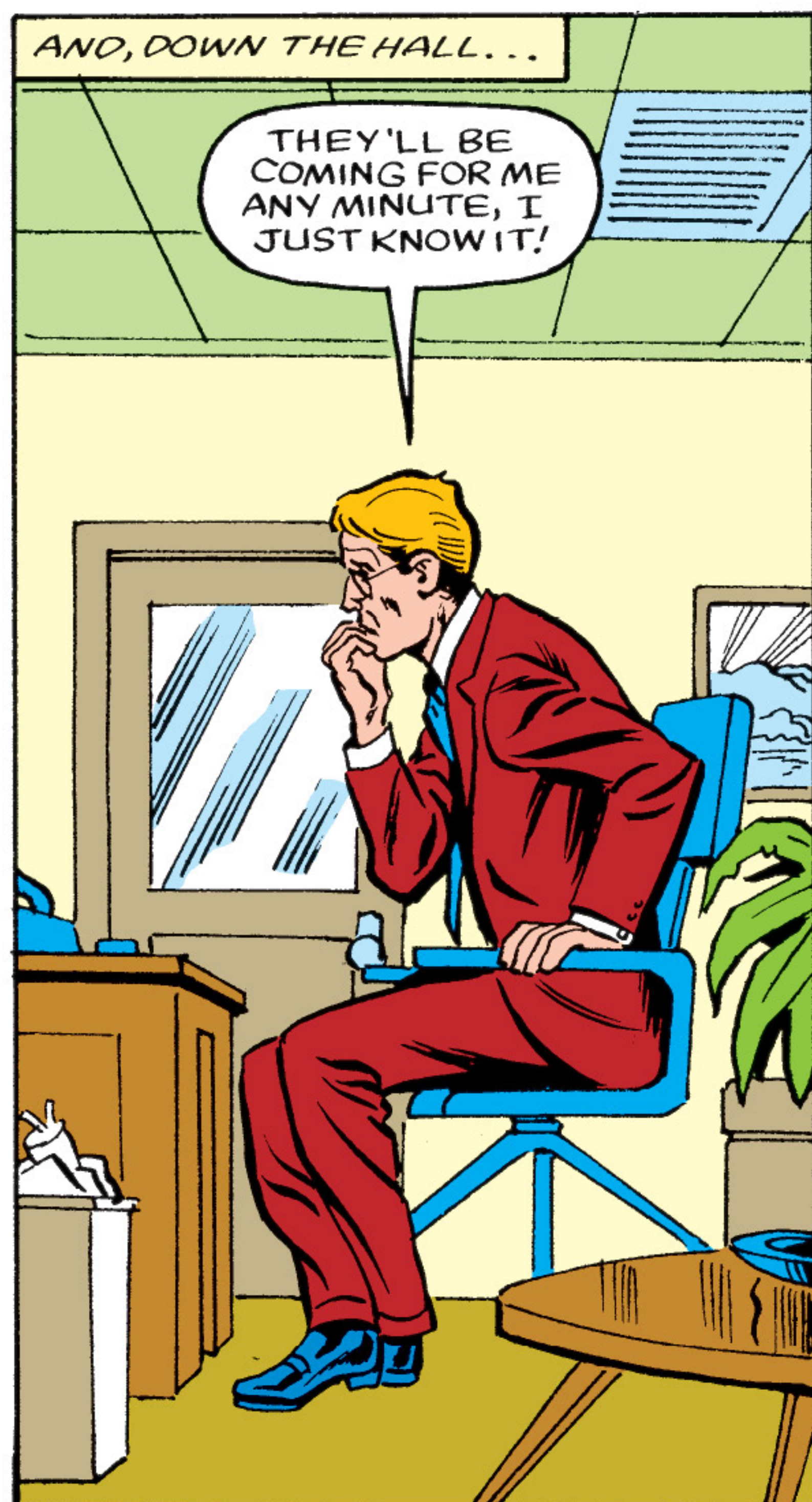
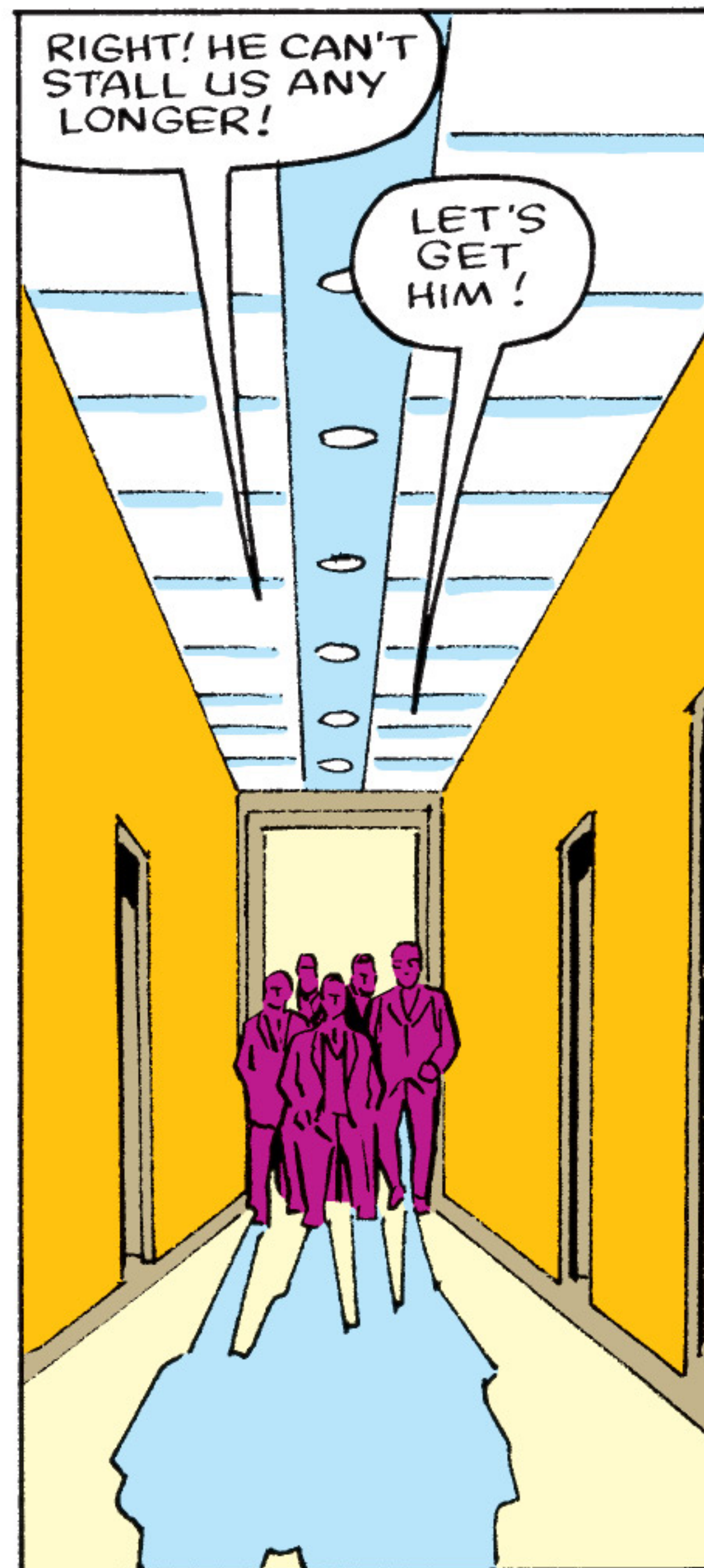
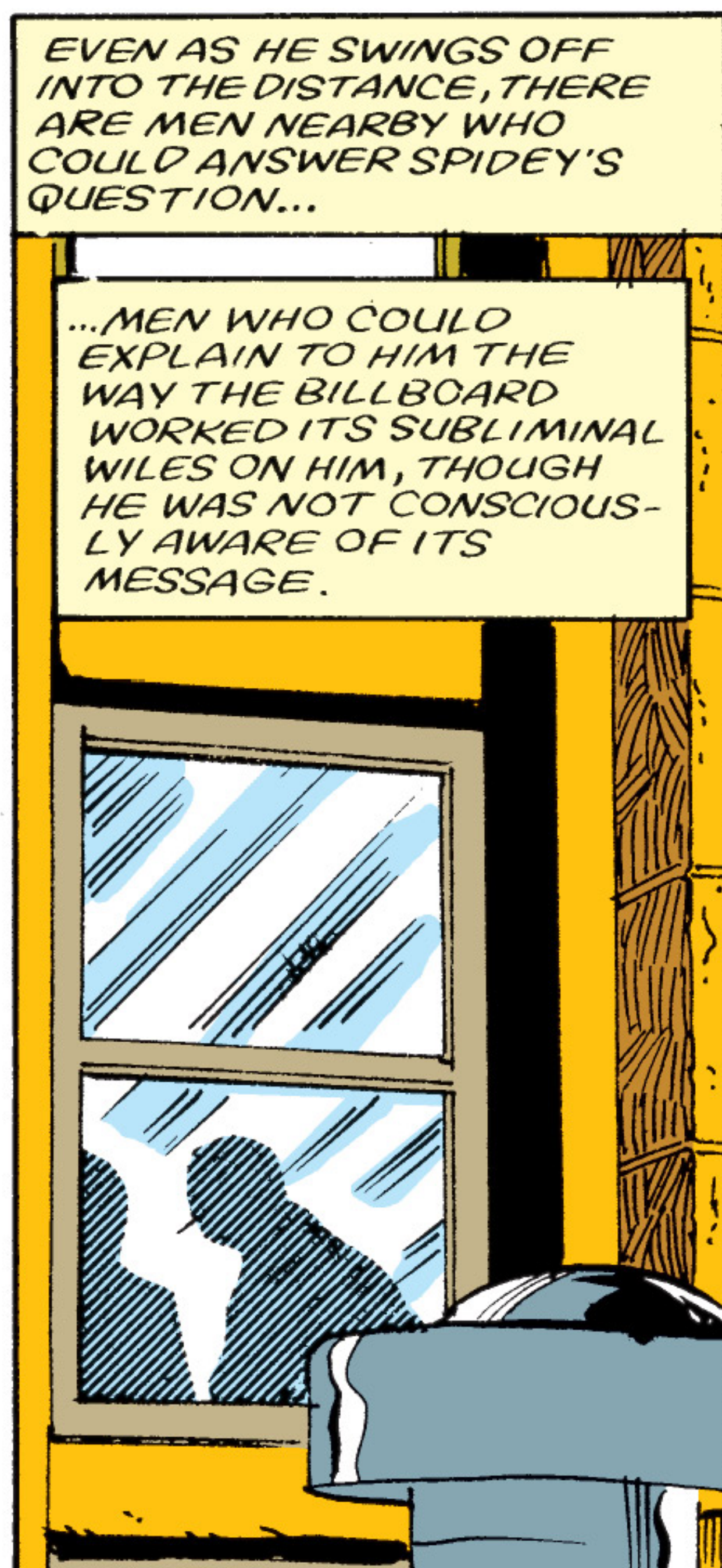


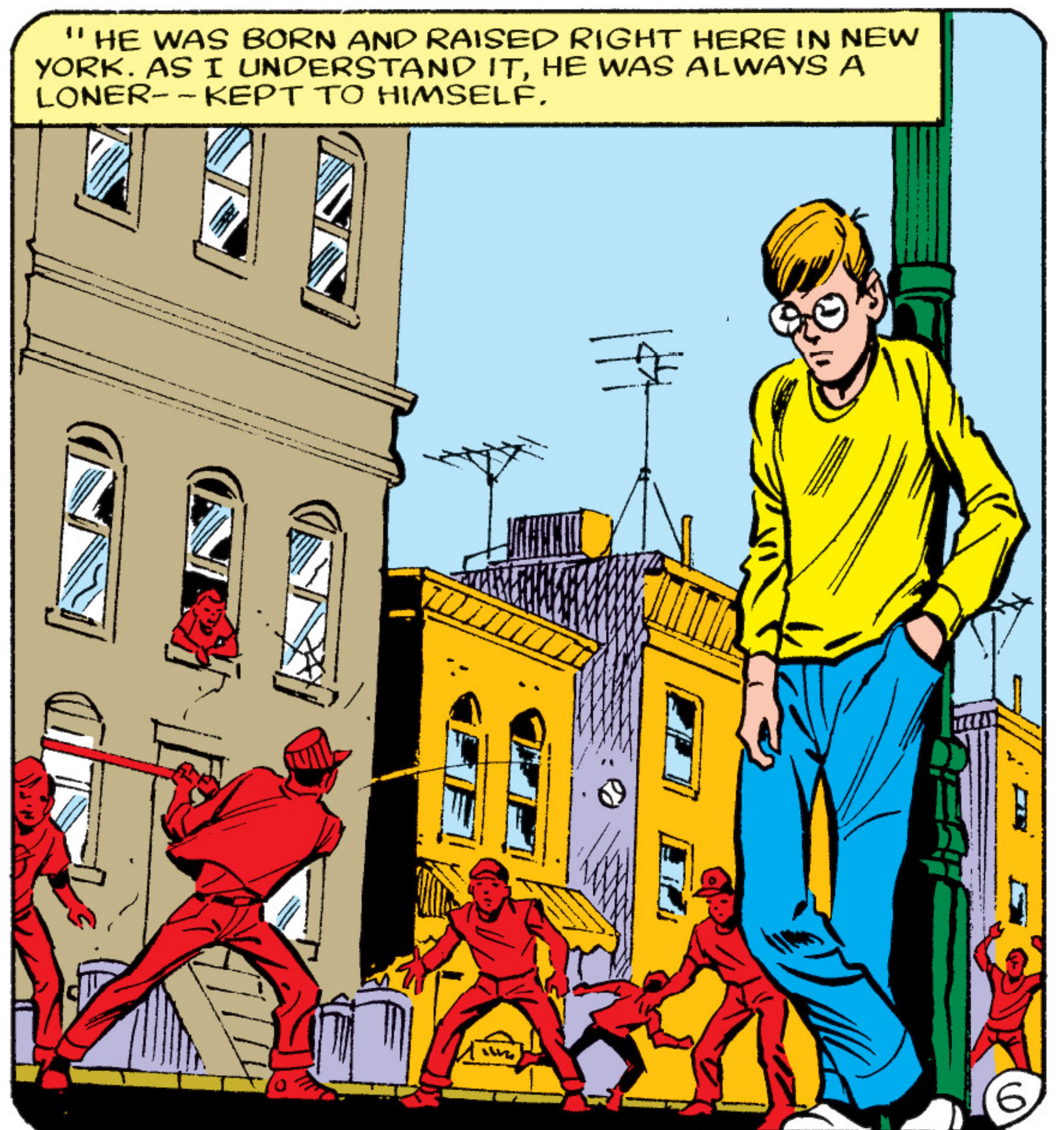
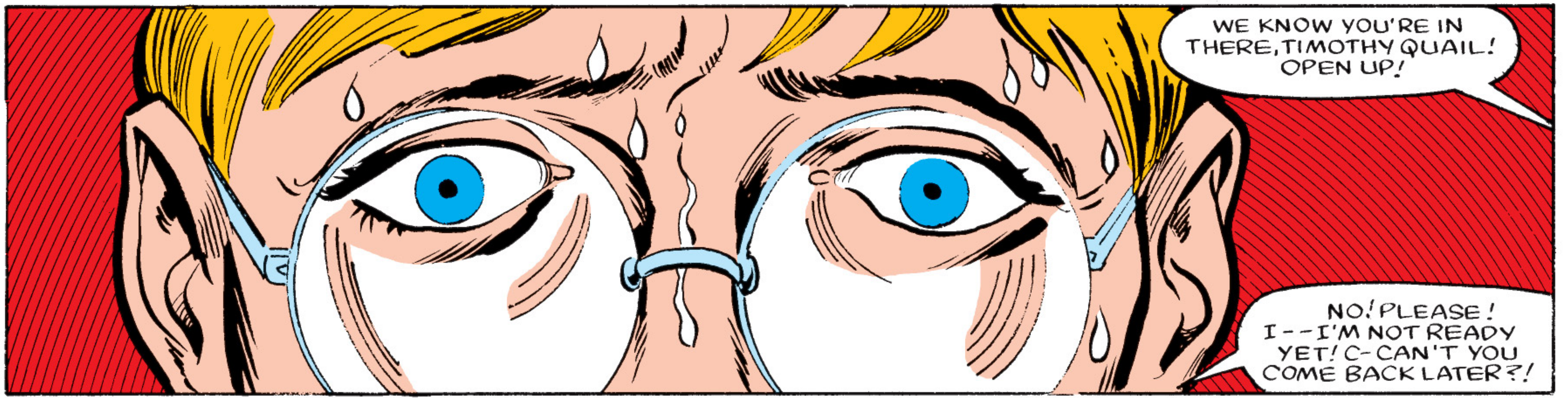
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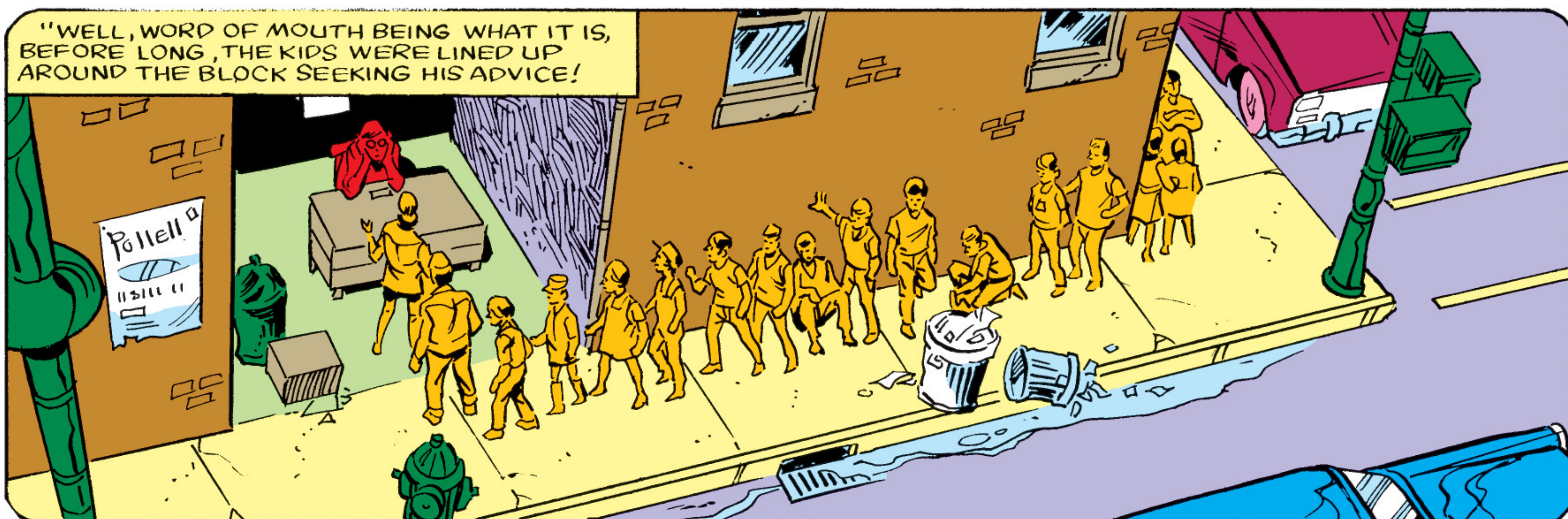
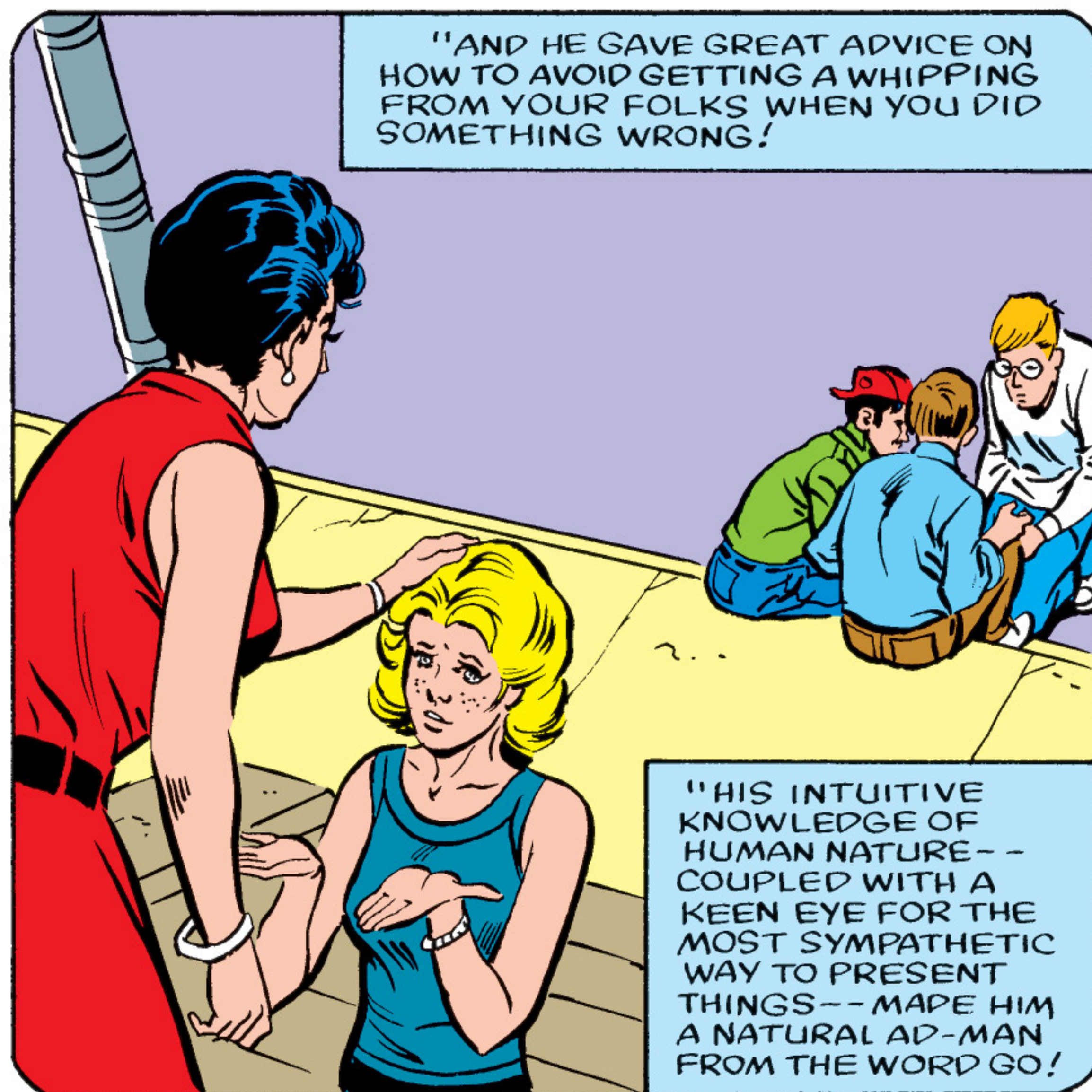
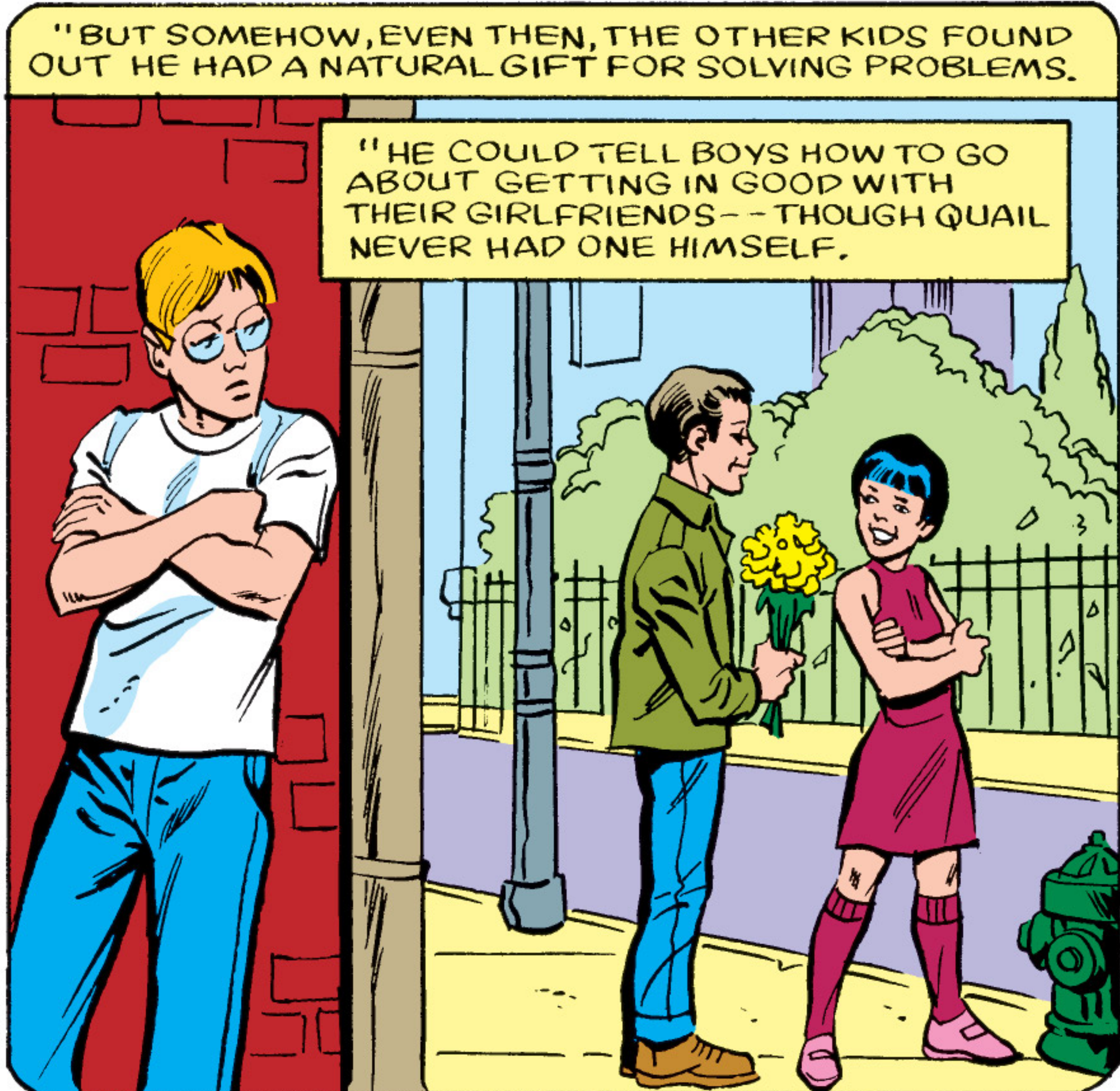


* SEE THE MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS LIMITED SERIES--DANNY.









"HE LIVED IN A CAVE ATOP A REMOTE, SNOW-COVERED MOUNTAIN, GREW A LONG BEARD, DRESSED HIMSELF IN RAGGED ROBES, AND BECAME A HERMIT!"



"HIS PEACE LASTED FOR A SHORT WHILE--"

"-- BUT BY THIS TIME, HIS FAME AS A BRILLIANT ADVISER HAD SPREAD SO FAR AND WIDE THAT EVEN HERE, PROVES OF HUMANITY SOUGHT HIM OUT!"

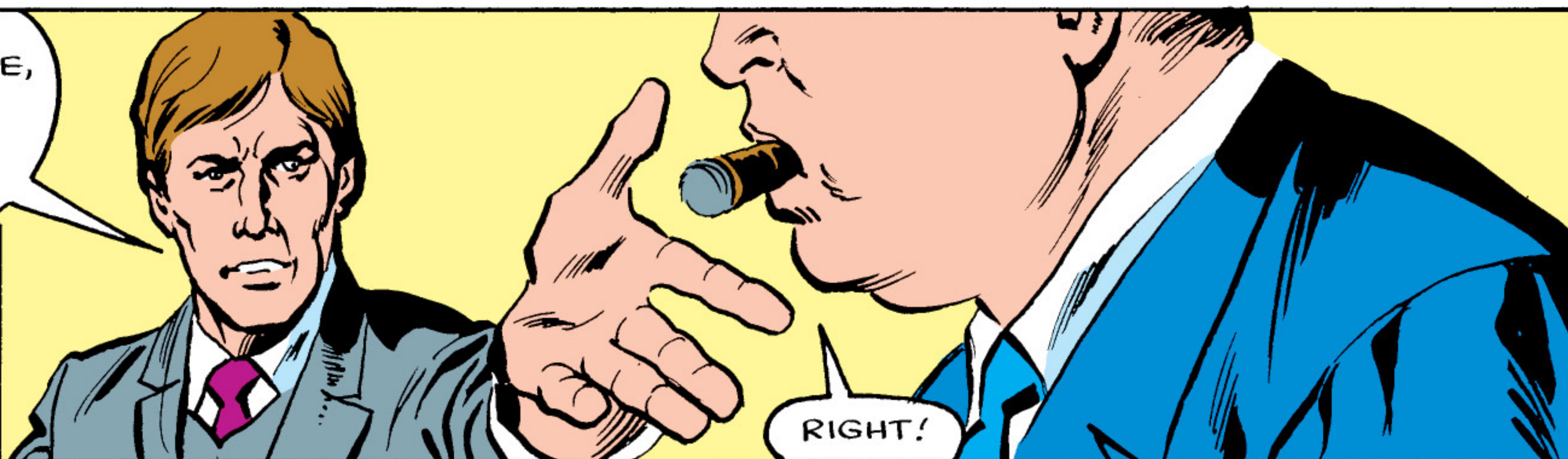


"IF ANYTHING, THE BEARD AND ROBES ADDED TO HIS IMAGE AS A WISE SEER! AFTER ALL, HE REALLY LOOKED THE PART!"

"MAYBE THAT'S WHEN HE BECAME SO ADEPT AT PACKAGING THINGS SO THEY WOULD SELL, HAVING SEEN THE RESULTS FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE!"

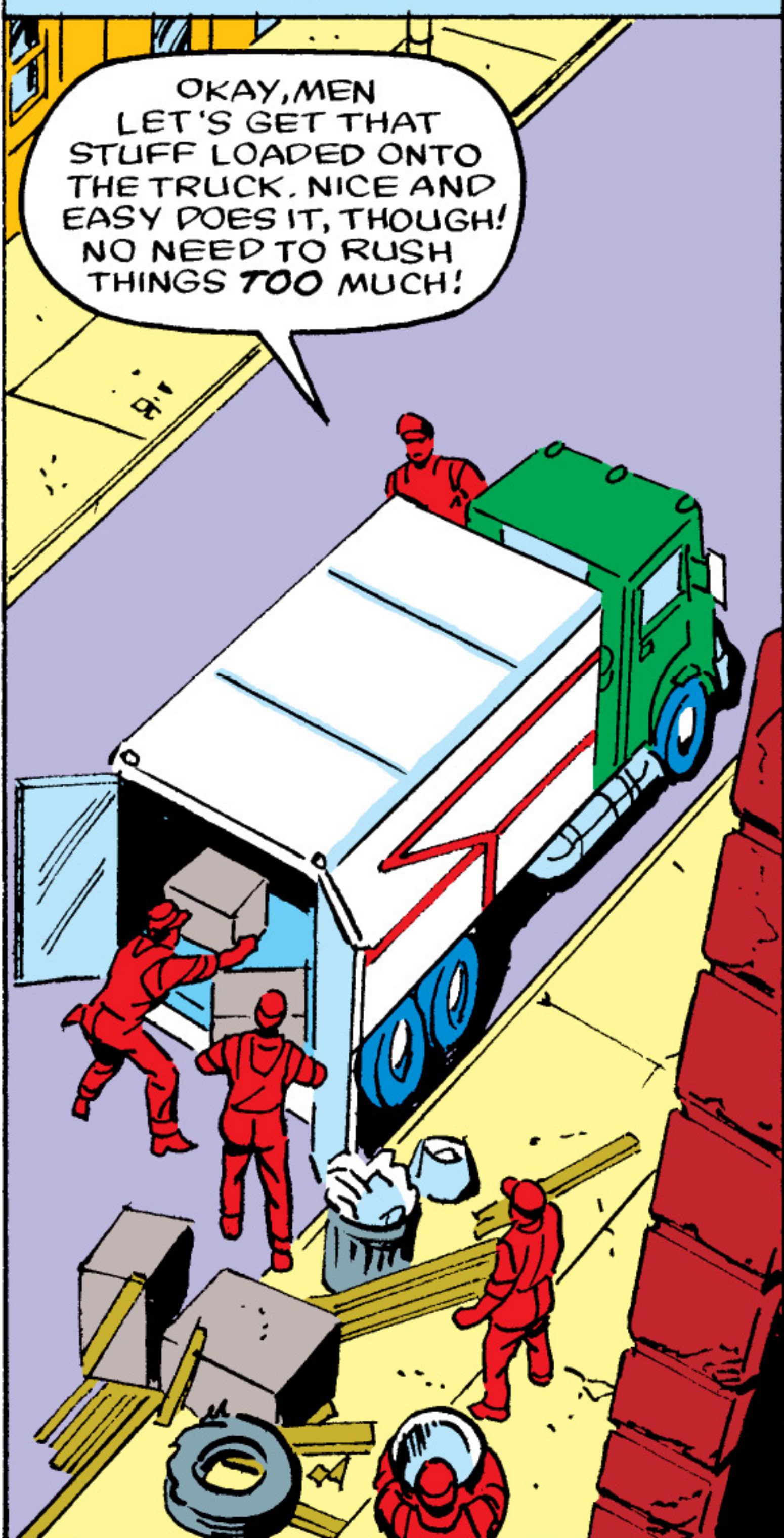
FINALLY HE LEFT THE MOUNTAINS, MOVED BACK HERE, AND FELL INTO ADVERTISING. HE WAS A NATURAL... AND BESIDES, PEOPLE IN THE BIZ MOSTLY LEAVE HIM ALONE-- EXCEPT ON PRESENTATION DAYS LIKE THIS!

SPEAKING OF WHICH, WE'D BETTER HUSTLE ALONG TO THAT MEETING OURSELVES!



RIGHT!

MEANWHILE, IN AN ALLEYWAY IN THE WEST 20'S...



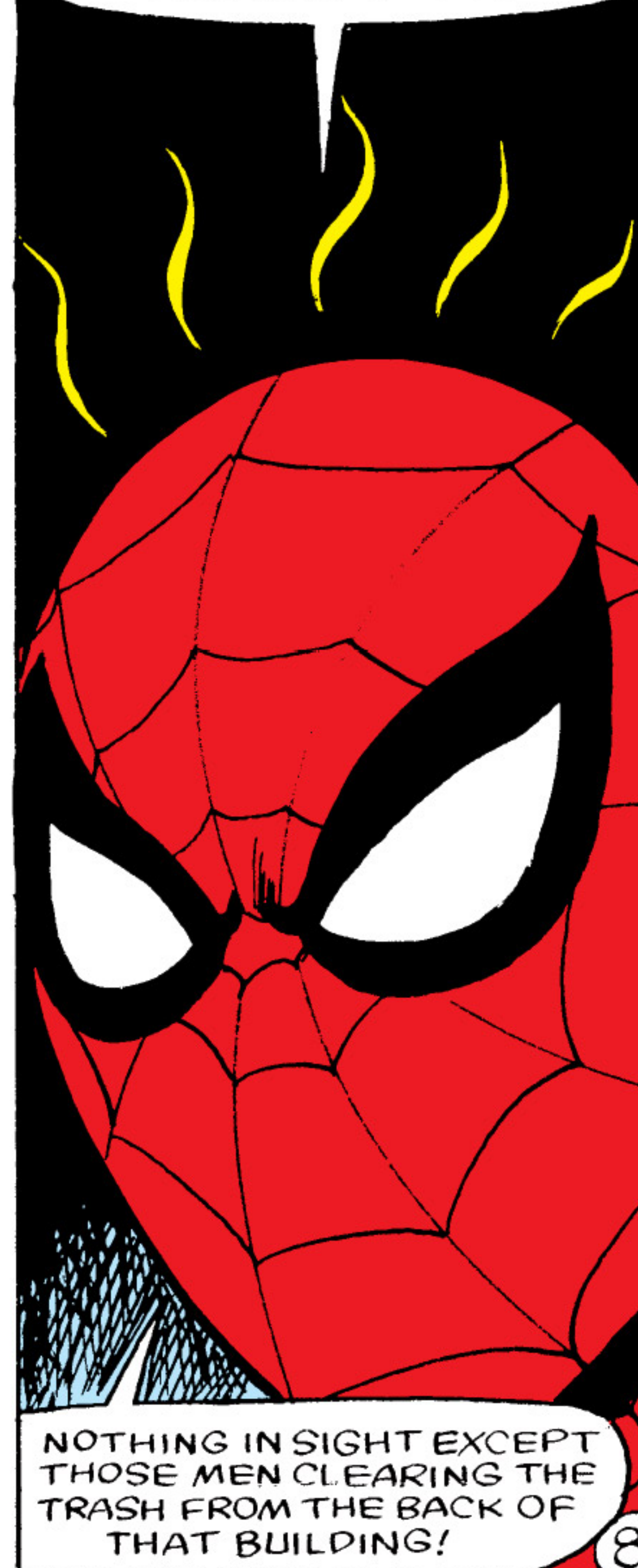
OKAY, MEN LET'S GET THAT STUFF LOADED ONTO THE TRUCK. NICE AND EASY DOES IT, THOUGH! NO NEED TO RUSH THINGS TOO MUCH!

COINCIDENTALLY, OUR WEB-HEADED WONDER IS SWINGING OVER THAT SELFSAME ALLEY...



... AND WITH ALL MY OTHER PROBLEMS, I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I'M GONNA PAY THE RENT THIS--

HEY! I'M GETTING A MILD BUZZ FROM MY SPIDER-SENSE! IS THERE SOME DANGER HEADING MY WAY?



NOTHING IN SIGHT EXCEPT THOSE MEN CLEARING THE TRASH FROM THE BACK OF THAT BUILDING!



WELL, CAN'T HURT TO CHECK ON THEM...

AFTERNOON, GENTS! ANYTHING GOING ON DOWN HERE I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

HUH?! WHO?!

SPIDER-MAN!



ER... NO, SIR! NOTHING WRONG HERE, MISTER SPIDER-MAN, SIR!

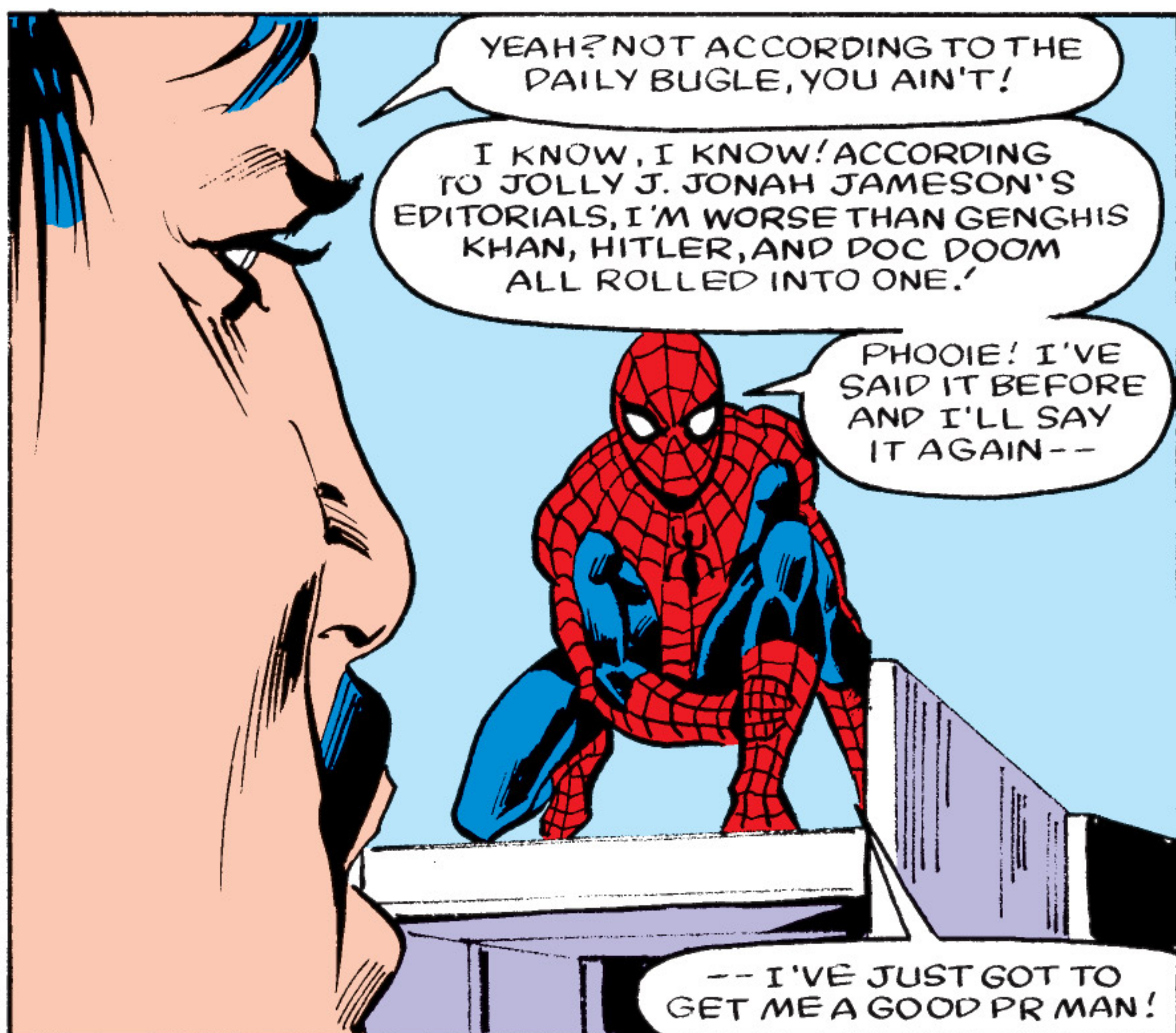
WHY DO YOU ASK?

SAY, YOU'RE NOT HERE TO ROB US ARE YOU? 'CAUSE IF YOU ARE, LET ME TELL YOU I'M GONNA GO CALL THE COPS RIGHT NOW!

EASY, ELLIOT. HE MIGHT BE DANGEROUS...



HOLD ON A MINUTE, FELLAS! I'M ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS!

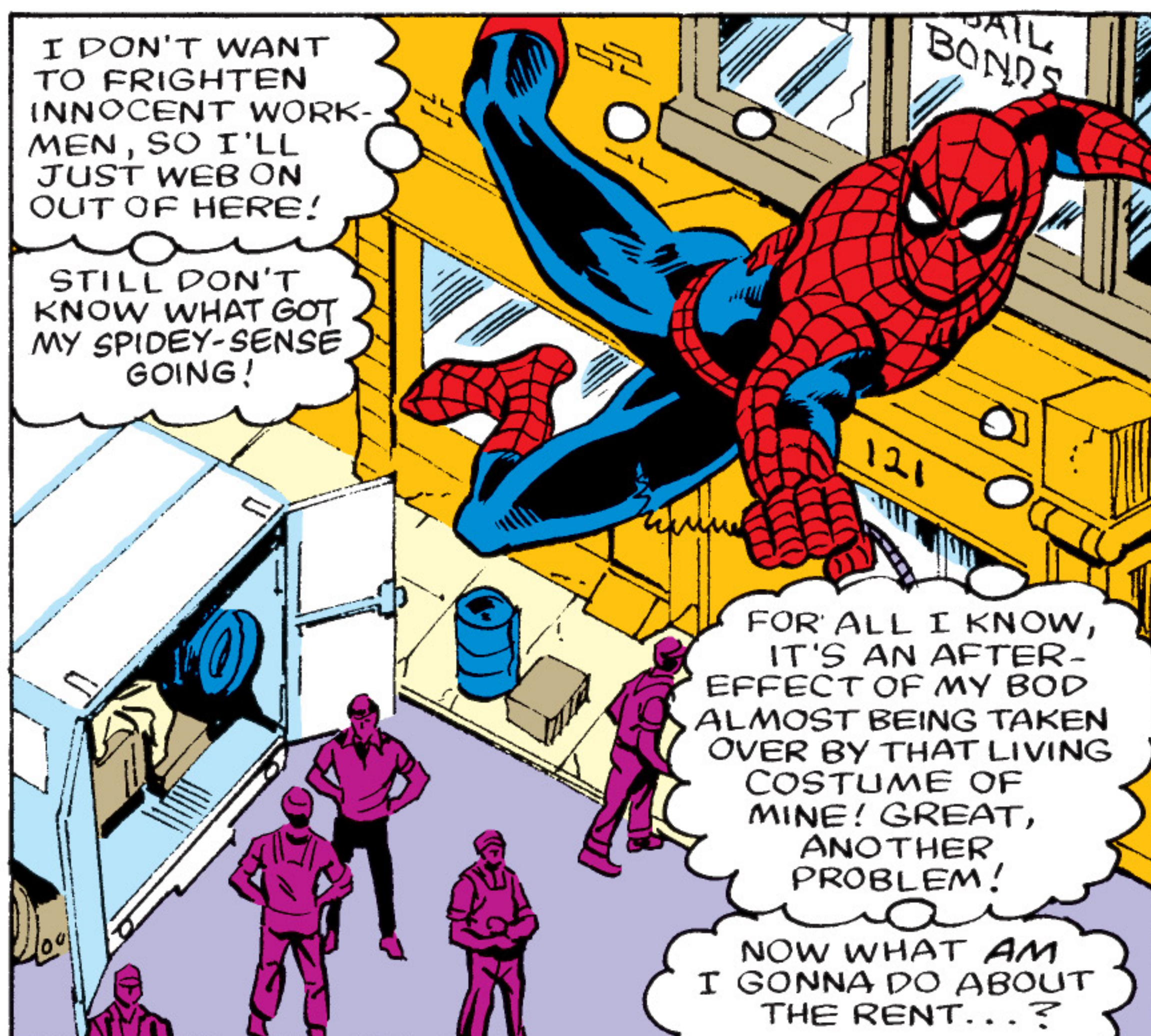


YEAH? NOT ACCORDING TO THE DAILY BUGLE, YOU AIN'T!

I KNOW, I KNOW! ACCORDING TO JOLLY J. JONAH JAMESON'S EDITORIALS, I'M WORSE THAN GENGHIS KHAN, HITLER, AND DOC DOOM ALL ROLLED INTO ONE.

PHOOIE! I'VE SAID IT BEFORE AND I'LL SAY IT AGAIN--

-- I'VE JUST GOT TO GET ME A GOOD PR MAN!

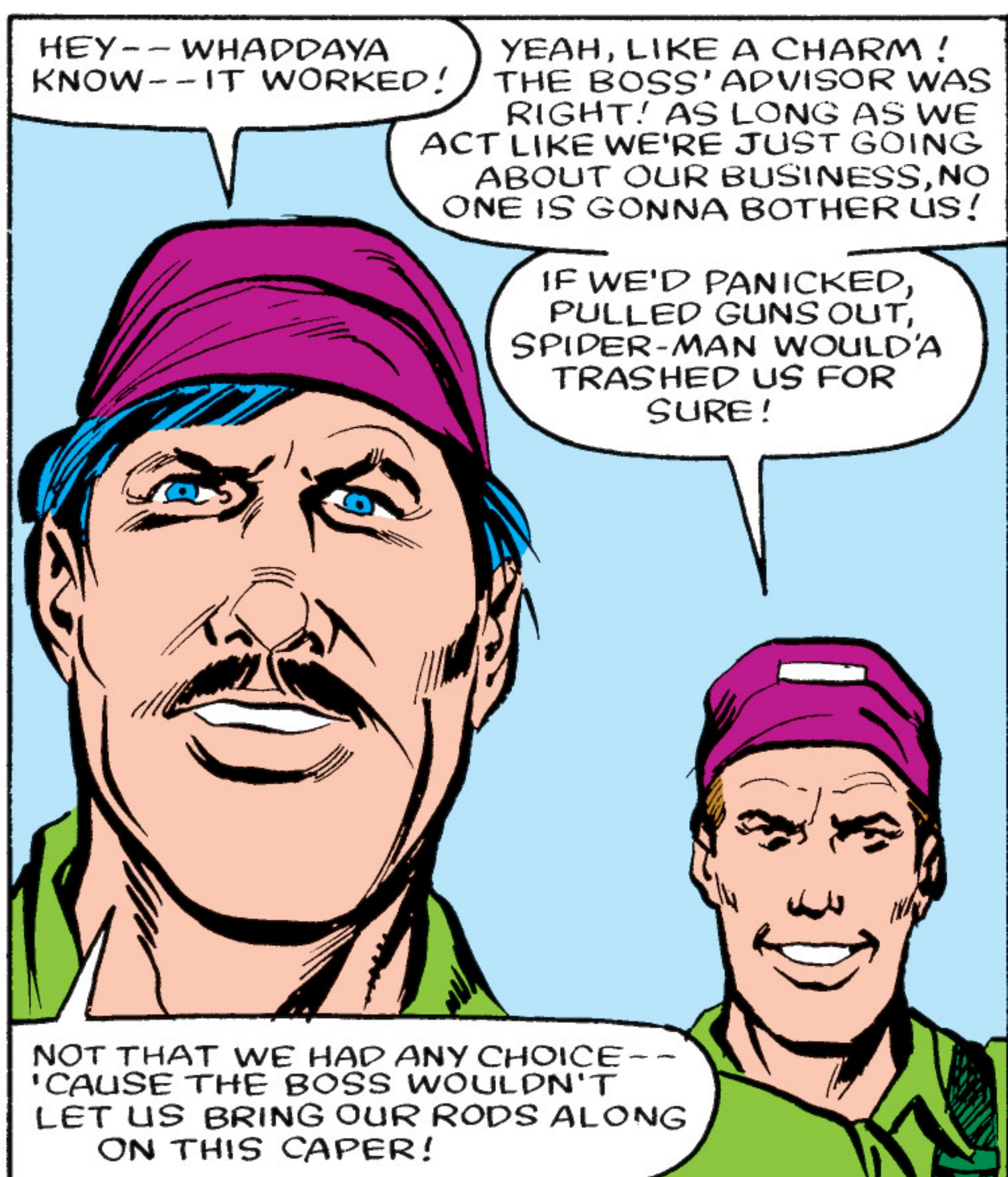


I DON'T WANT TO FRIGHTEN INNOCENT WORKMEN, SO I'LL JUST WEB ON OUT OF HERE!

STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT GOT MY SPIDEY-SENSE GOING!

FOR ALL I KNOW, IT'S AN AFTER-EFFECT OF MY BODY ALMOST BEING TAKEN OVER BY THAT LIVING COSTUME OF MINE! GREAT, ANOTHER PROBLEM!

NOW WHAT AM I GONNA DO ABOUT THE RENT...?

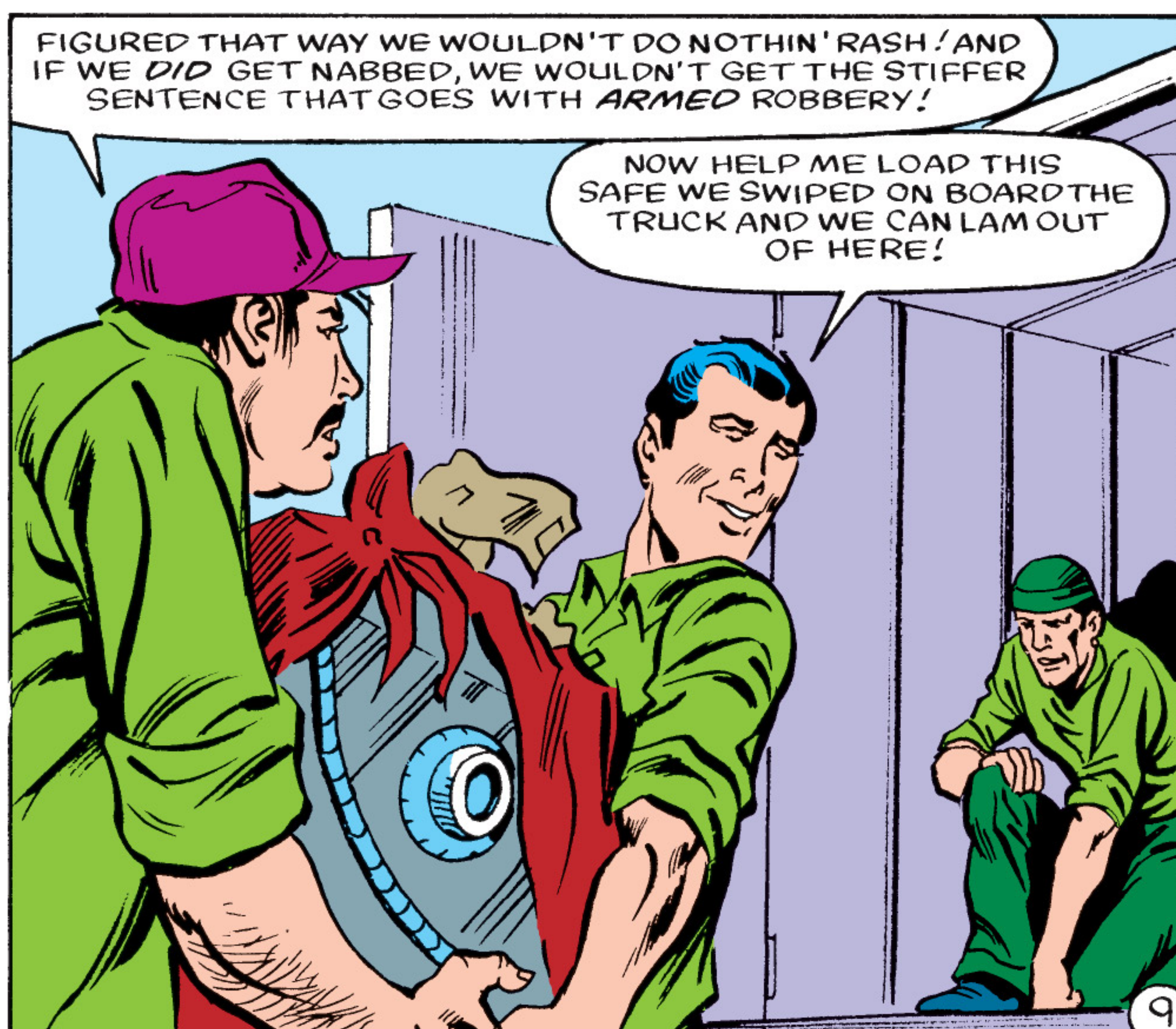


HEY-- WHADDAYA KNOW-- IT WORKED!

YEAH, LIKE A CHARM! THE BOSS' ADVISOR WAS RIGHT! AS LONG AS WE ACT LIKE WE'RE JUST GOING ABOUT OUR BUSINESS, NO ONE IS GONNA BOTHER US!

IF WE'D PANICKED, PULLED GUNS OUT, SPIDER-MAN WOULD'A TRASHED US FOR SURE!

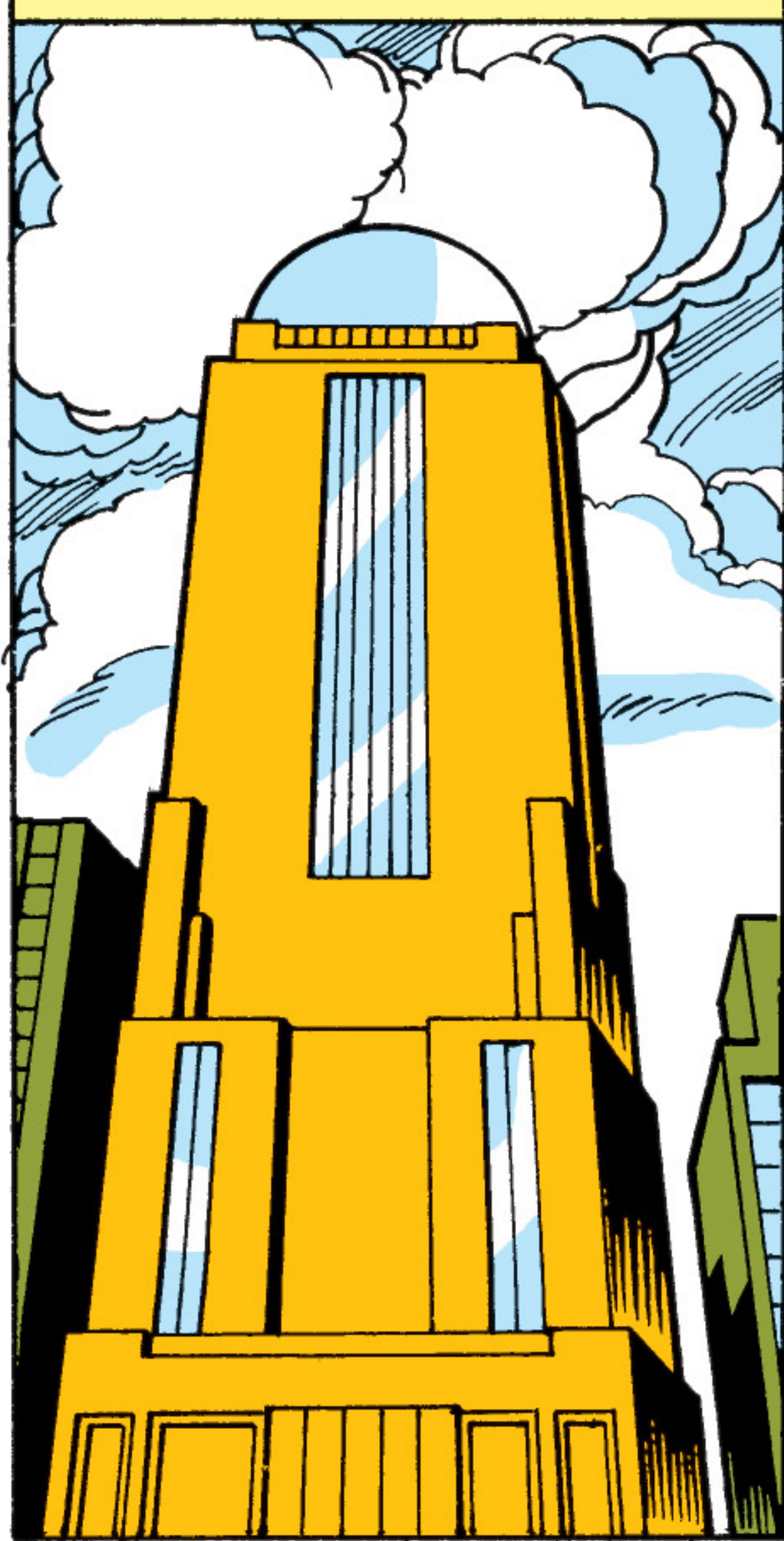
NOT THAT WE HAD ANY CHOICE-- 'CAUSE THE BOSS WOULDN'T LET US BRING OUR RODS ALONG ON THIS CAPER!



FIGURED THAT WAY WE WOULDN'T DO NOthin' RASH! AND IF WE DID GET NABBED, WE WOULDN'T GET THE STIFFER SENTENCE THAT GOES WITH ARMED ROBBERY!

NOW HELP ME LOAD THIS SAFE WE SWIPED ON BOARD THE TRUCK AND WE CAN LAM OUT OF HERE!

WHILE, BACK AT AN IMPOSING STRUCTURE ON MADISON AVENUE...



GREAT PRESENTATION, TIMOTHY!

REALLY! THE CLIENT LOVED IT! SWALLOWED IT HOOK, LINE, AND SINKER!

ER... I'M GLAD YOU ALL LIKED IT! W-WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF I WENT HOME A BIT EARLY TODAY? I'M FEELING RATHER TIRED.



SURE, TAKE THE REST OF THE DAY OFF! YOU EARNED IT!

HOW 'BOUT THE REST OF US GO OUT AND QUAFF A FEW TO CELEBRATE!

WELL, THANK GOODNESS *THAT'S* OVER! IF ONLY THEY'D LEAVE ME COMPLETELY ALONE--

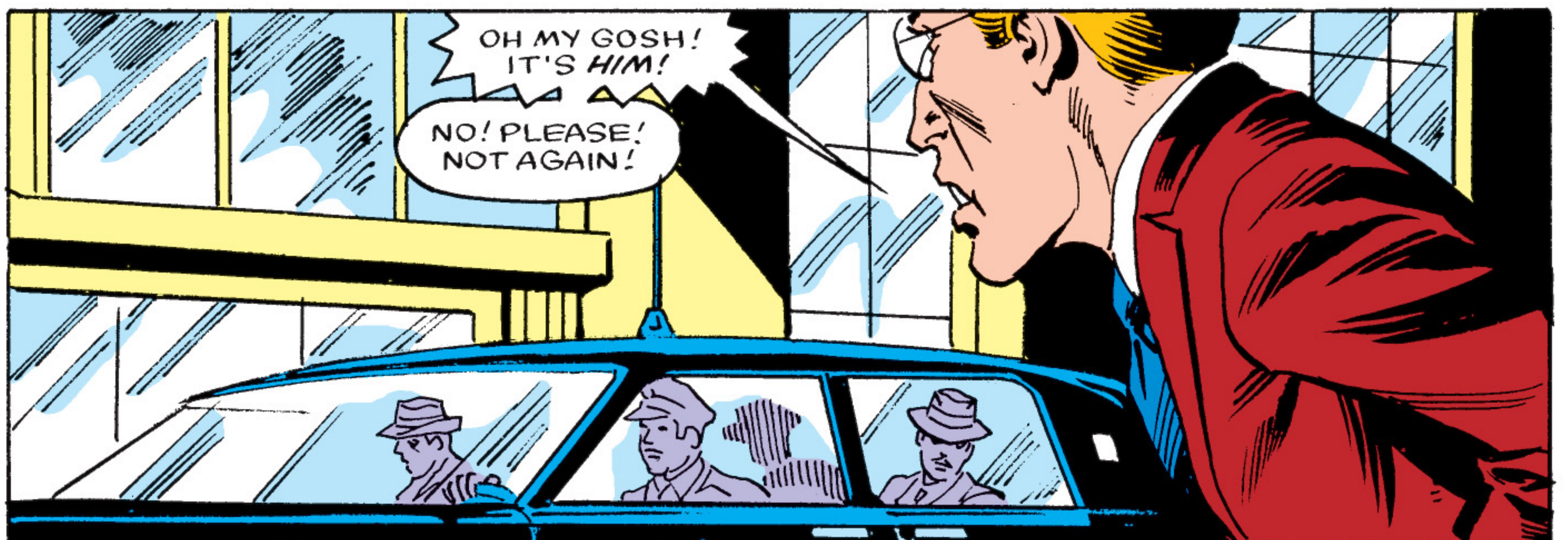


-- BUT I GUESS THAT'S JUST TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR!

AT LEAST THE MEN AT THE AGENCY AREN'T AS BAD AS...

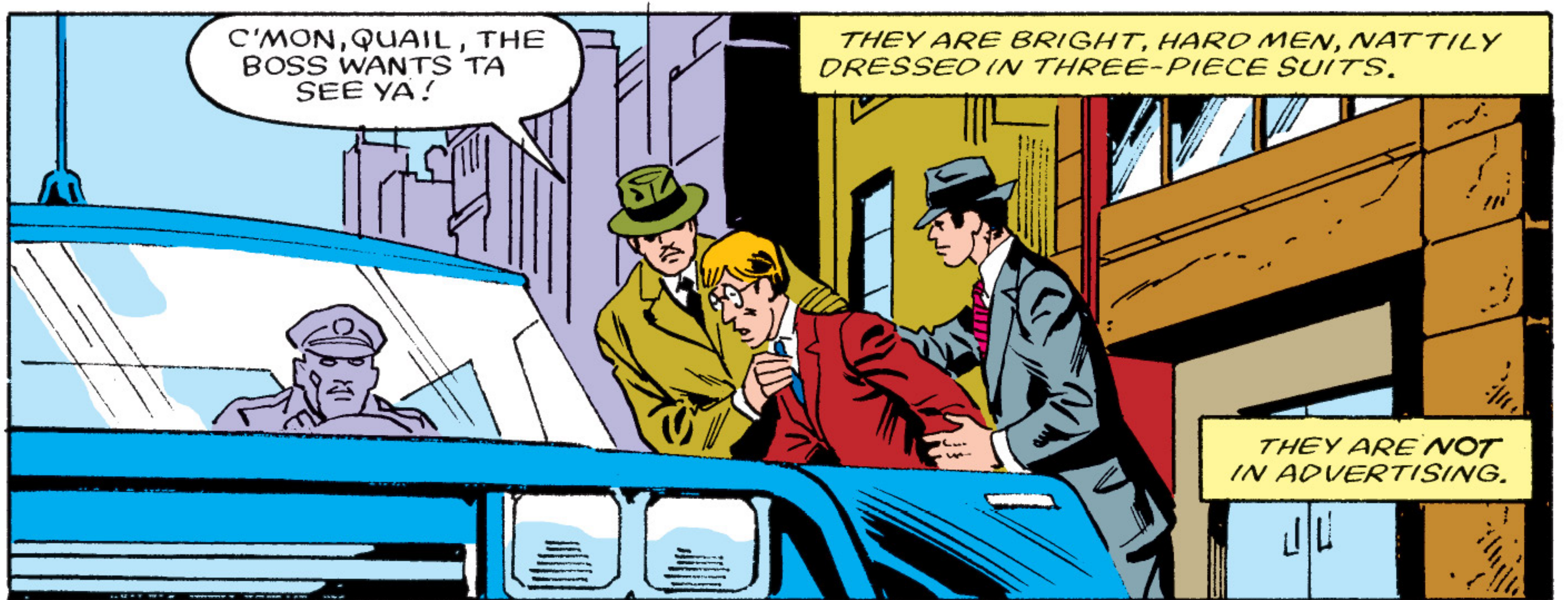
OH MY GOSH! IT'S HIM!

NO! PLEASE! NOT AGAIN!



C'MON, QUAIL, THE BOSS WANTS TA SEE YA!

THEY ARE BRIGHT, HARD MEN, NATTILY DRESSED IN THREE-PIECE SUITS.



THEY ARE NOT IN ADVERTISING.

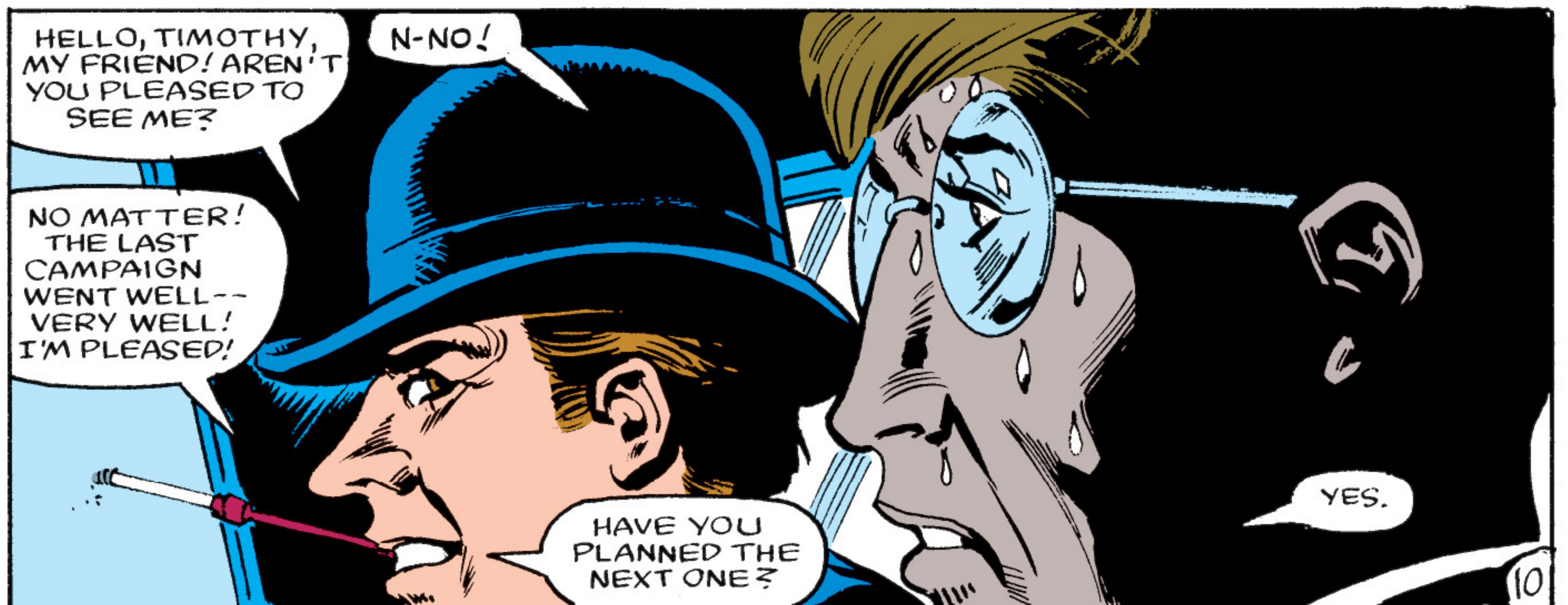
HELLO, TIMOTHY, MY FRIEND! AREN'T YOU PLEASD TO SEE ME?

N-NO!

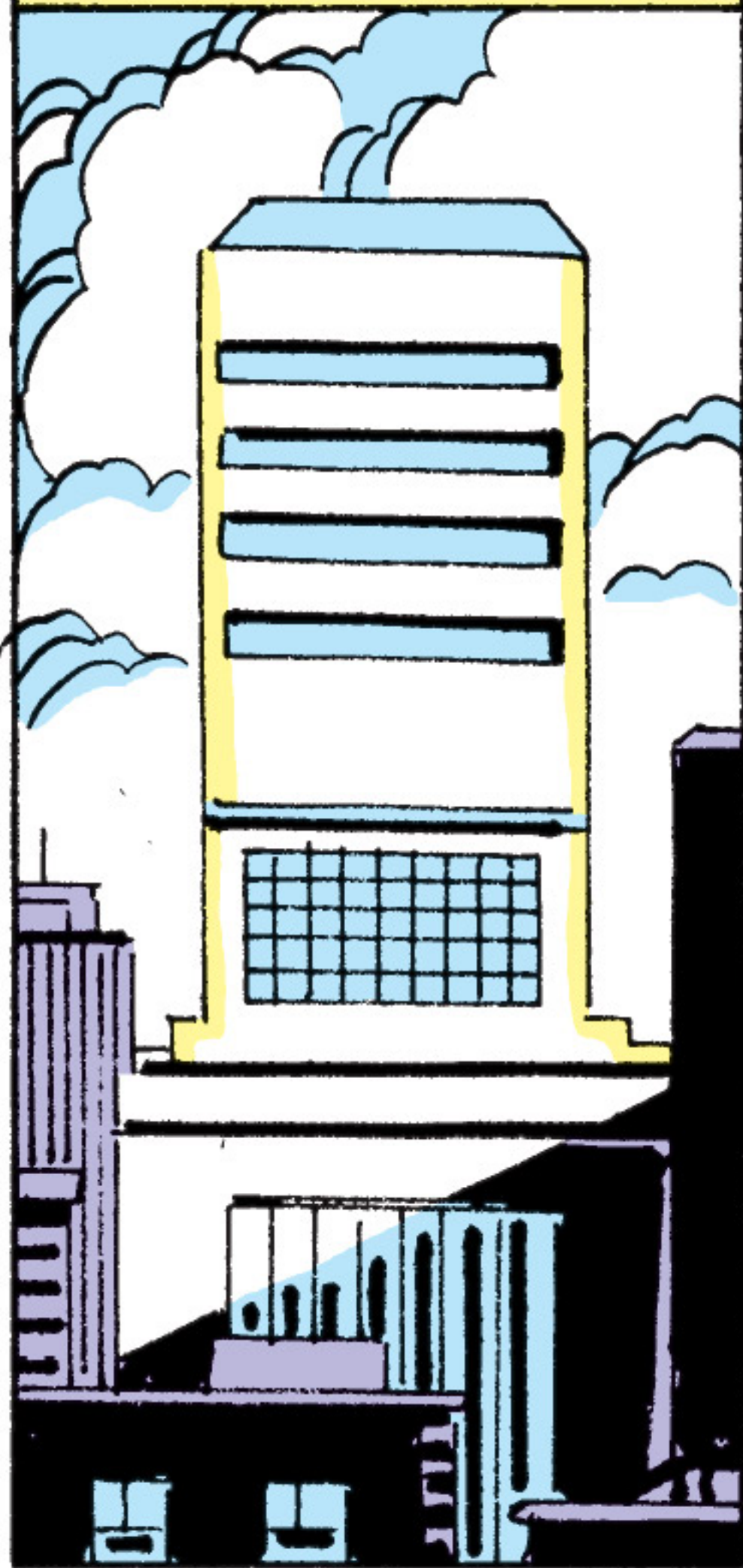
NO MATTER! THE LAST CAMPAIGN WENT WELL-- VERY WELL! I'M PLEASED!

HAVE YOU PLANNED THE NEXT ONE?

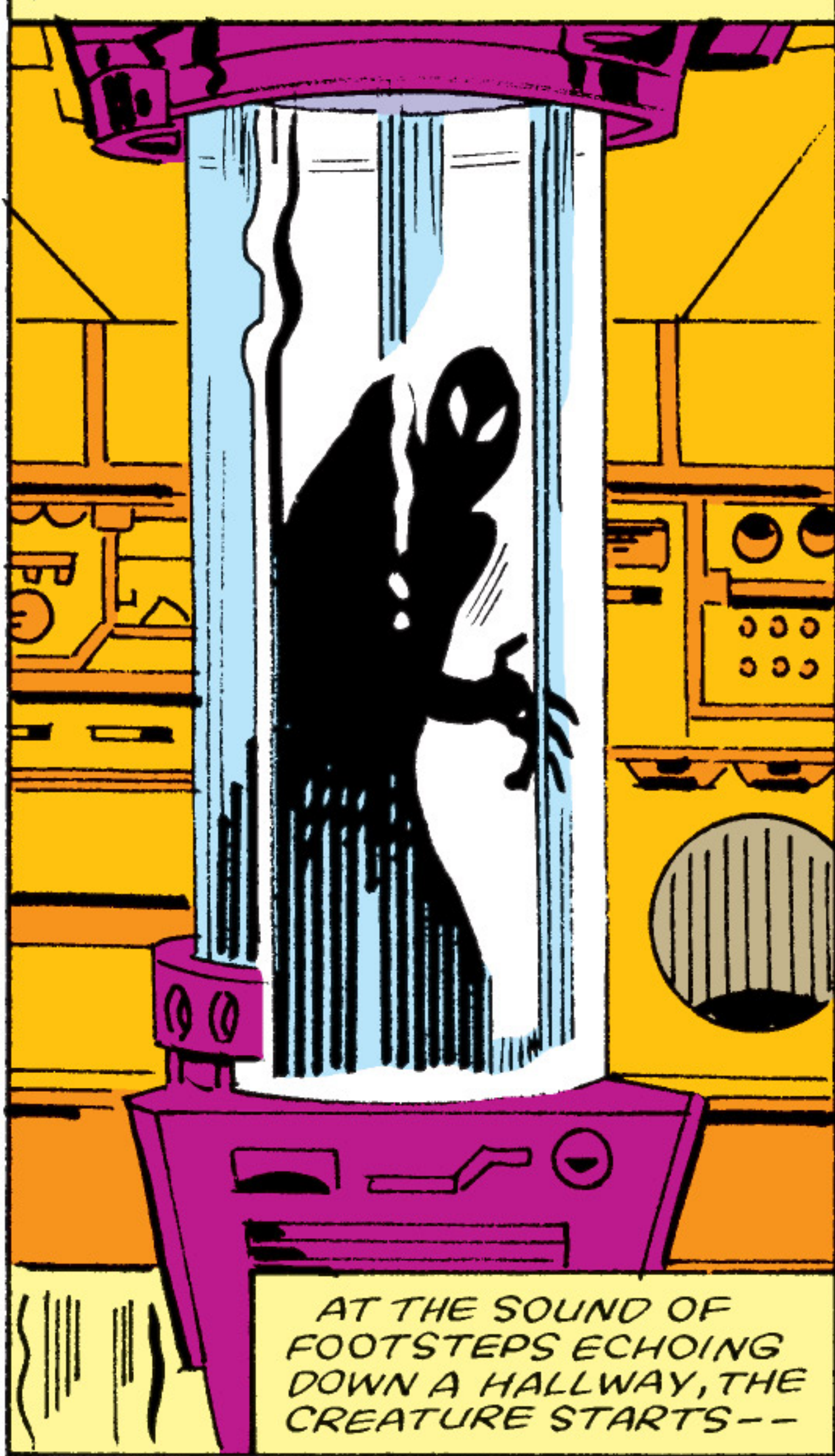
YES.



WHILE TIMOTHY QUAIL DETAILS THE PARTICULARS OF HIS PLAN-- OTHER SINISTER EVENTS ARE OCCURRING ACROSS TOWN AT THE WORLD FAMOUS BAXTER BUILDING, HEADQUARTERS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR...



WITHIN ONE CHAMBER OF THE BUILDING, THE ALIEN ENTITY WHICH HAD BEEN SPIDER-MAN'S NEW COSTUME IS HELD CAPTIVE...



AT THE SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS ECHOING DOWN A HALLWAY, THE CREATURE STARTS--



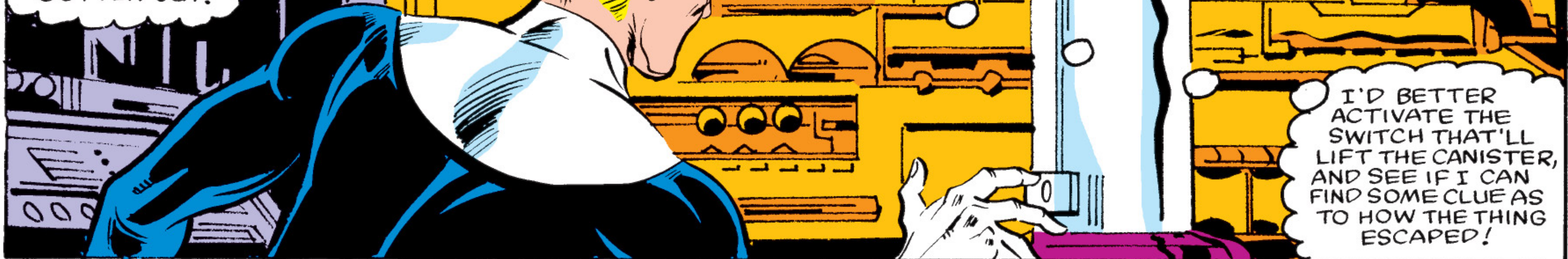
-- THEN...



OH, NO! IT'S GONE!

I CAME BY TO CHECK UP ON THAT WEIRD COSTUME OF SPIDER-MAN'S--

-- BUT SOMEHOW IT MUST HAVE GOTTEN OUT!

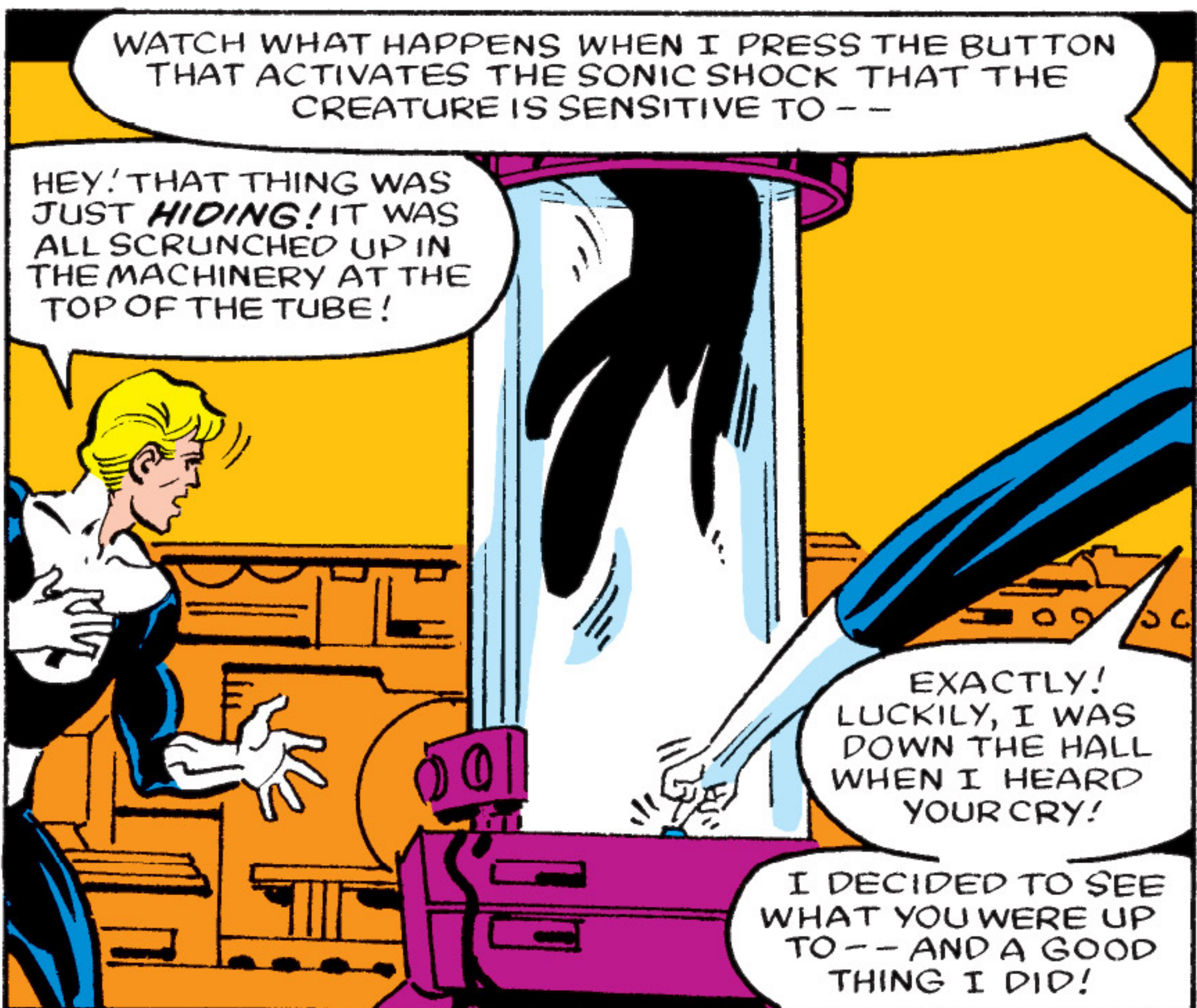


I'D BETTER ACTIVATE THE SWITCH THAT'LL LIFT THE CANISTER, AND SEE IF I CAN FIND SOME CLUE AS TO HOW THE THING ESCAPED!



HOLD IT, JOHNNY!

HUH? REED'S ARM STRETCHING INTO THE ROOM-- STOPPING ME!

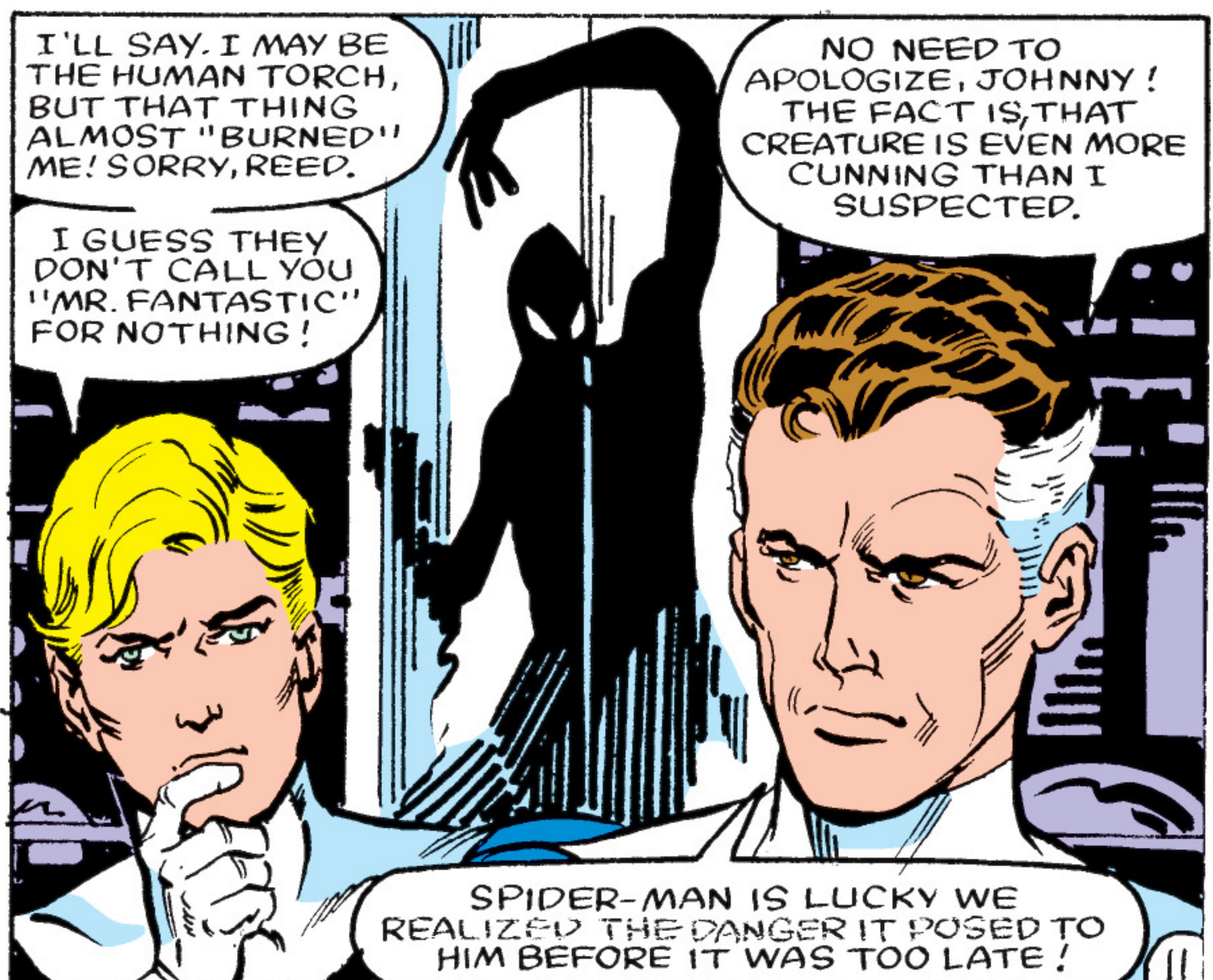


WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I PRESS THE BUTTON THAT ACTIVATES THE SONIC SHOCK THAT THE CREATURE IS SENSITIVE TO--

HEY! THAT THING WAS JUST HIDING! IT WAS ALL SCRUNCHED UP IN THE MACHINERY AT THE TOP OF THE TUBE!

EXACTLY! LUCKILY, I WAS DOWN THE HALL WHEN I HEARD YOUR CRY!

I DECIDED TO SEE WHAT YOU WERE UP TO-- AND A GOOD THING I DID!

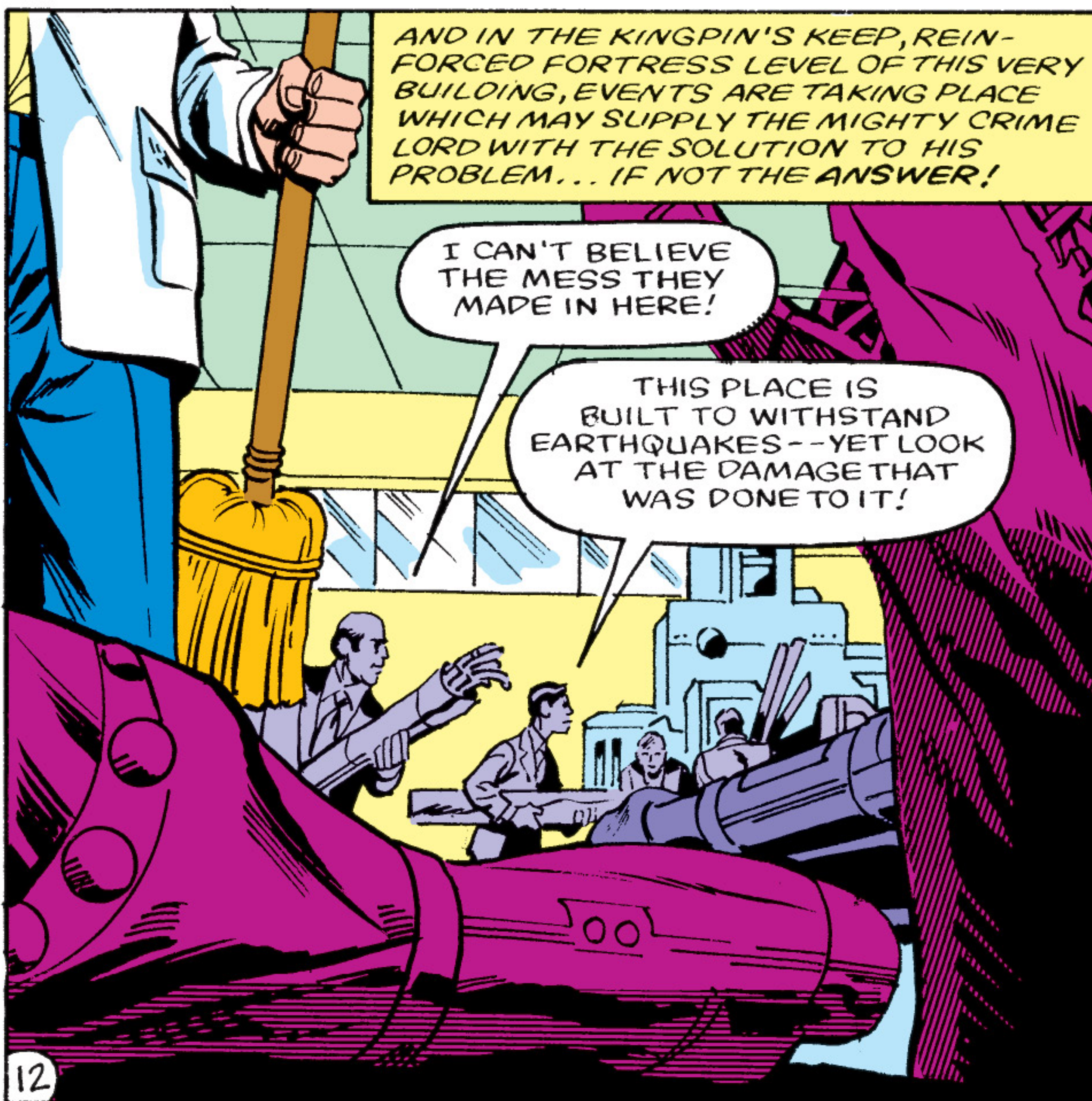
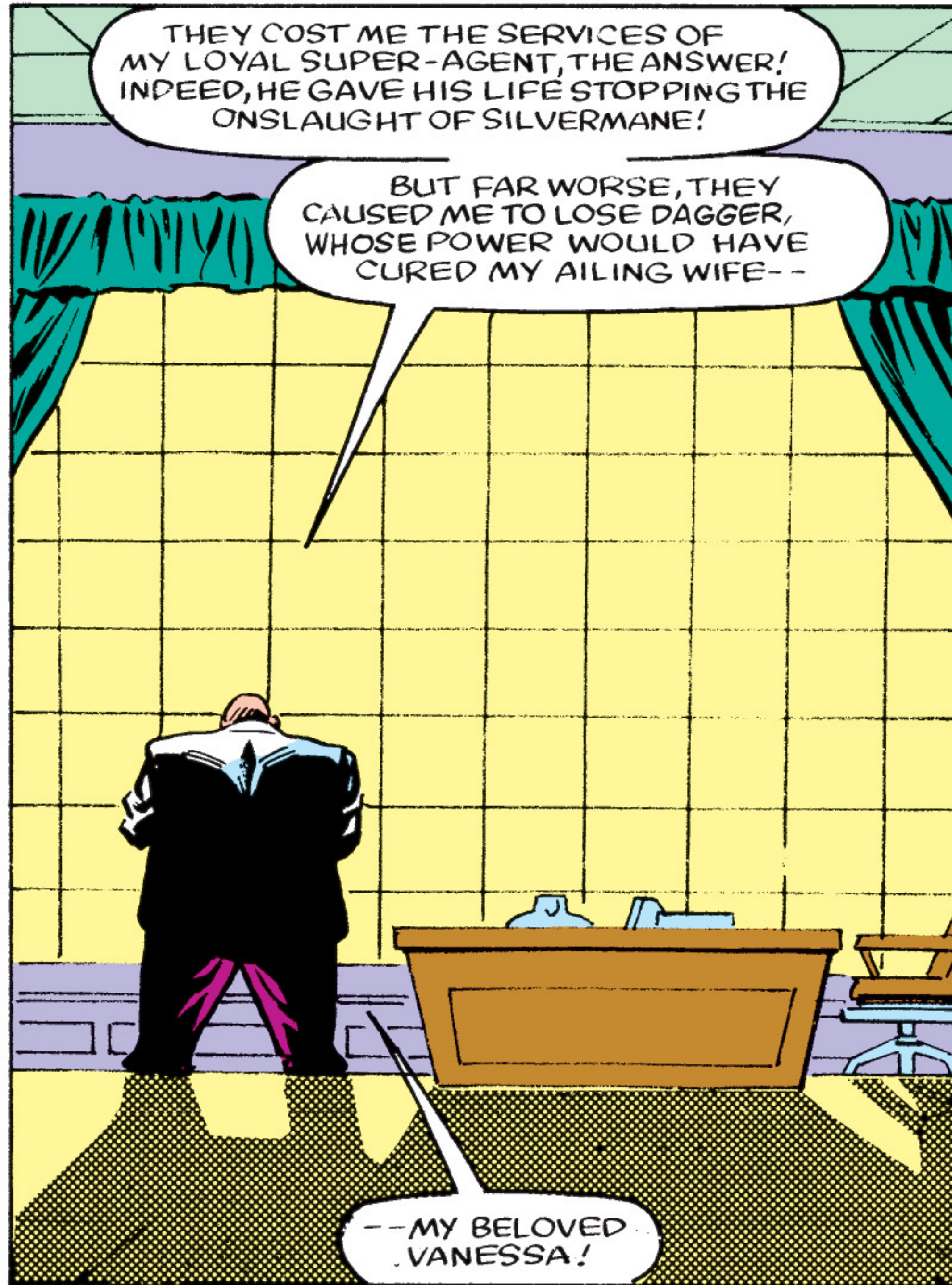
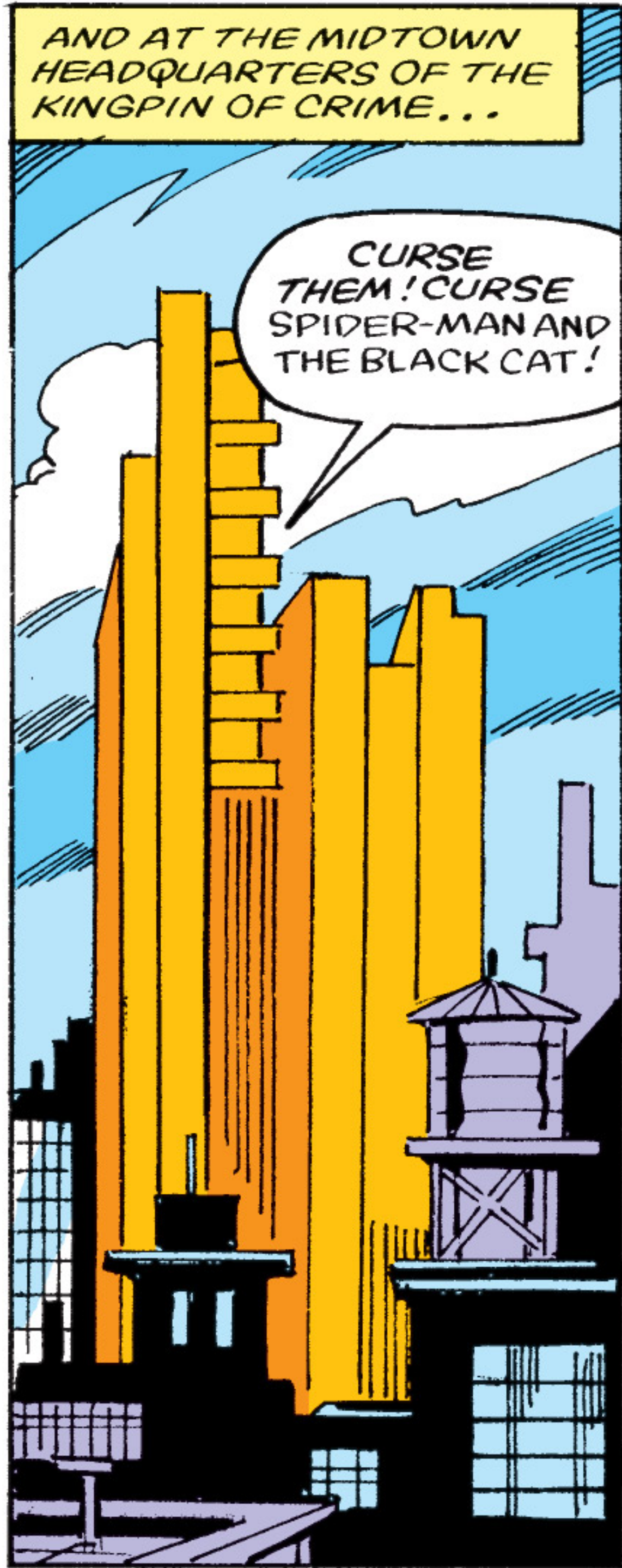


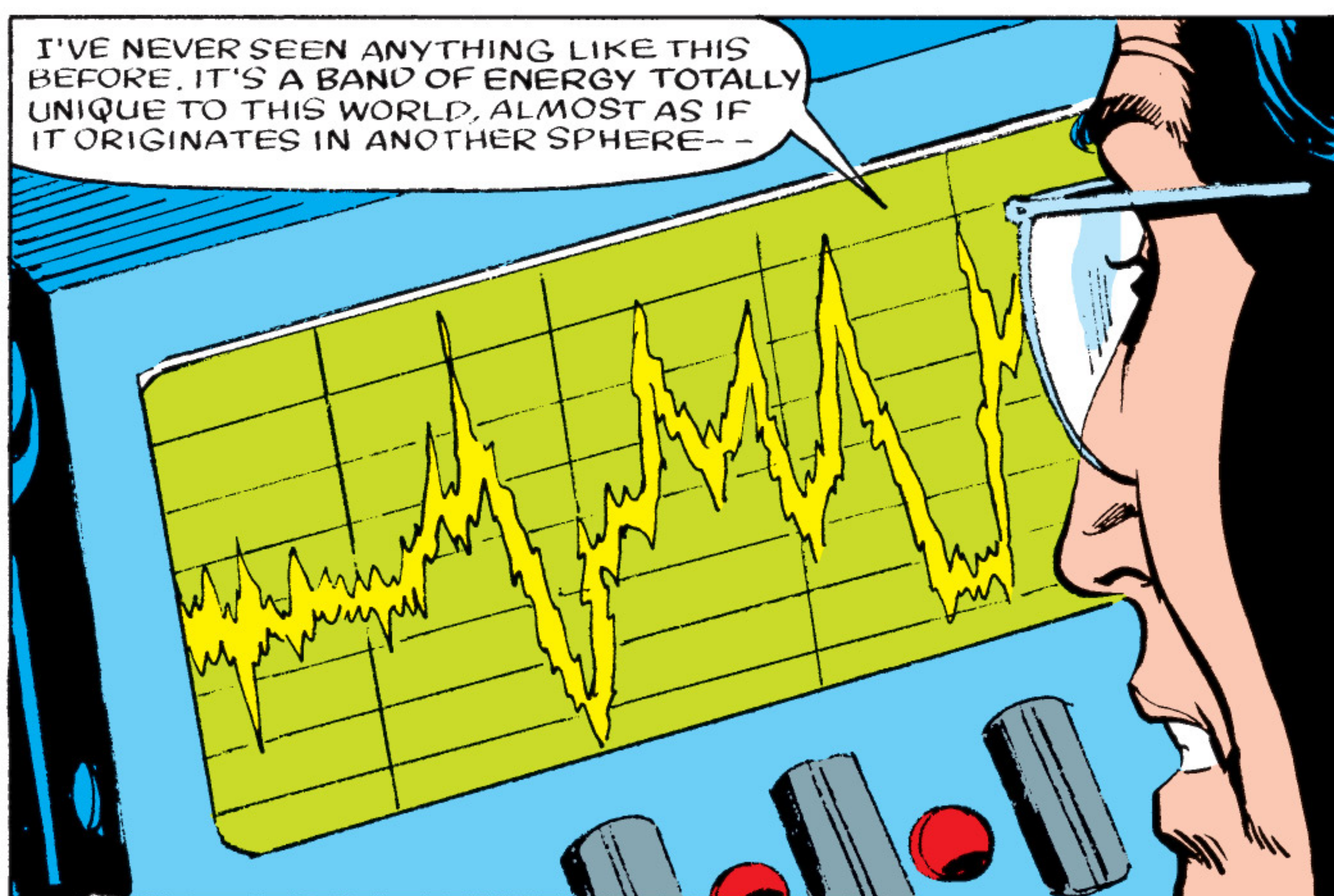
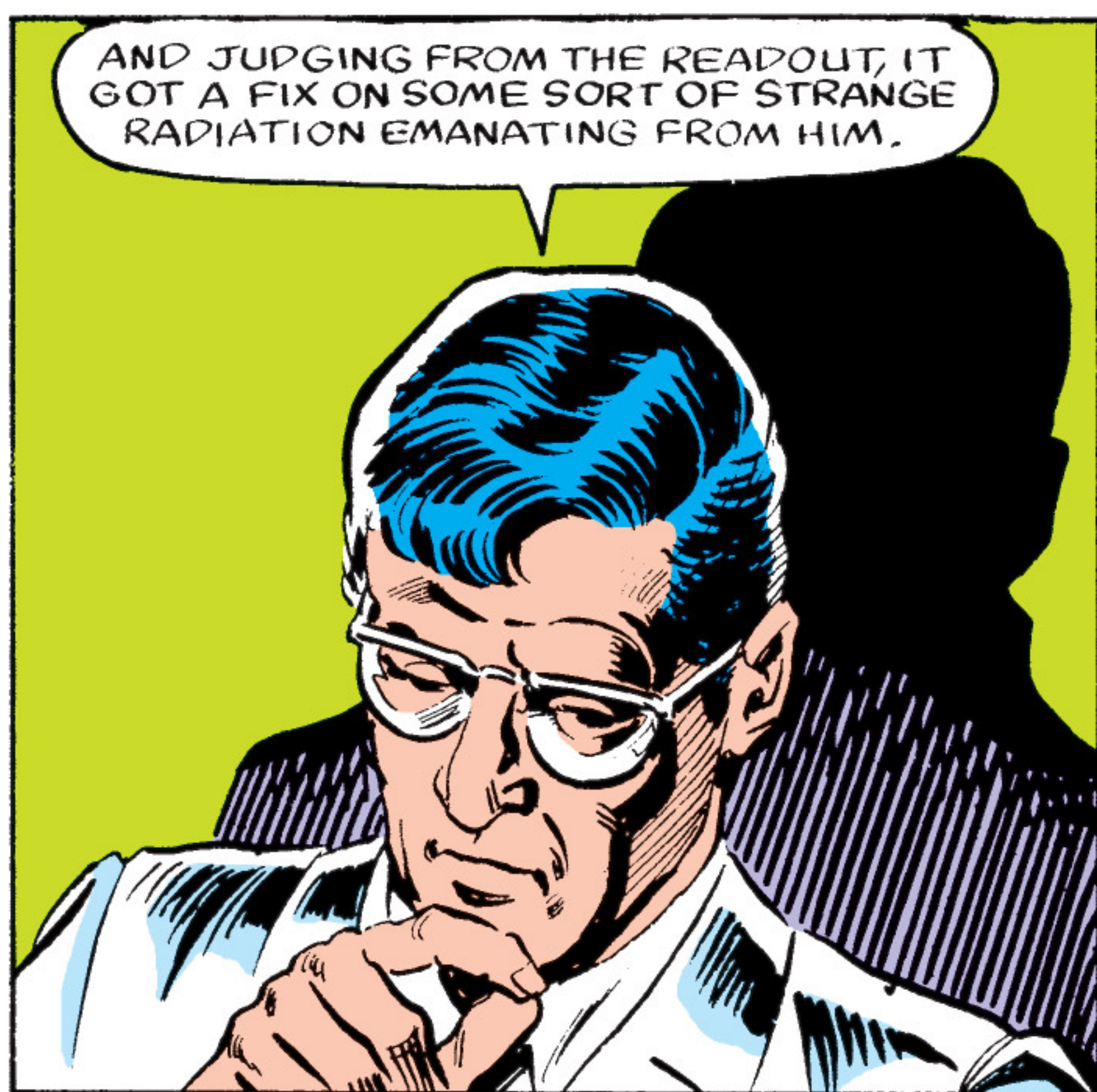
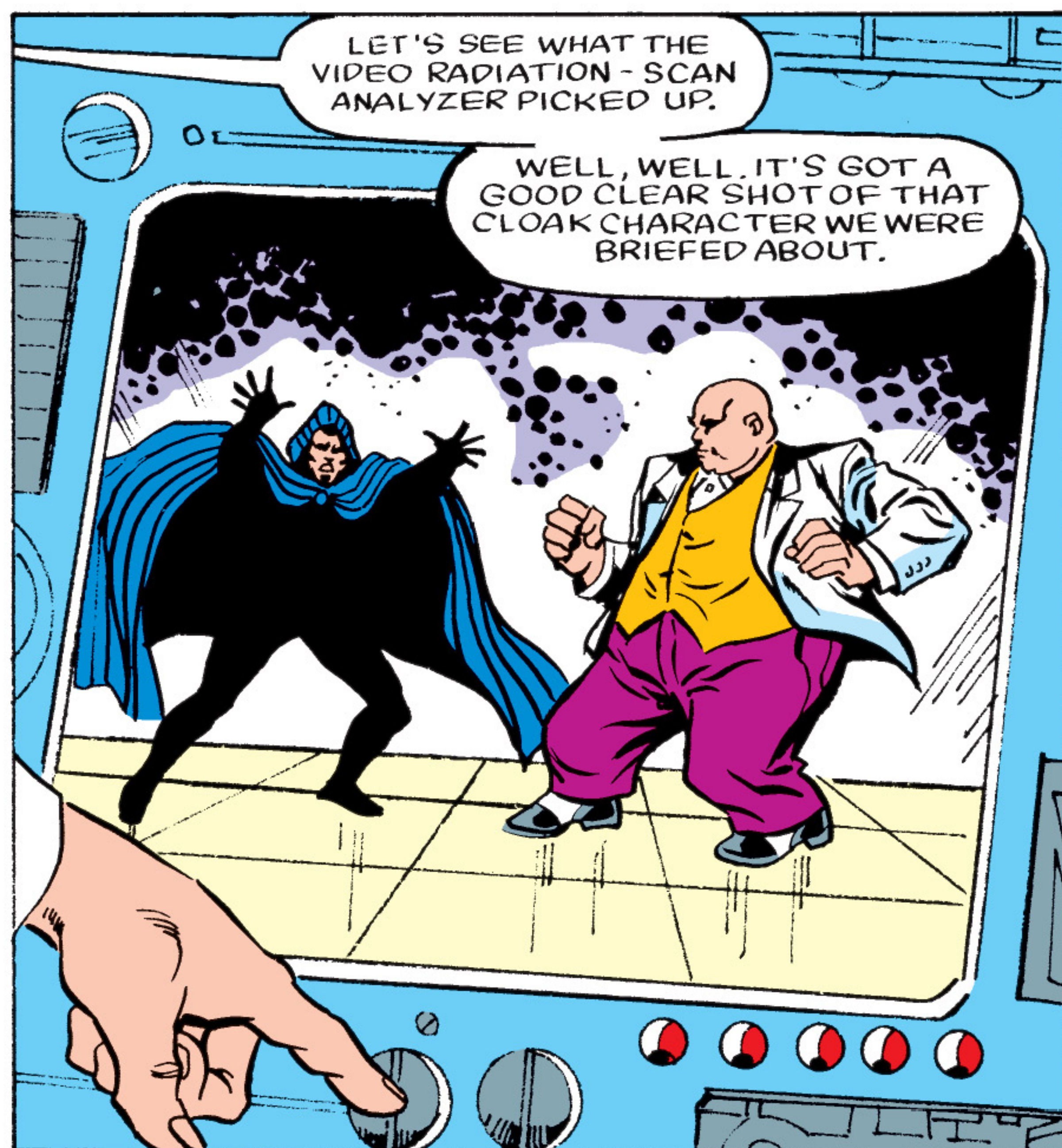
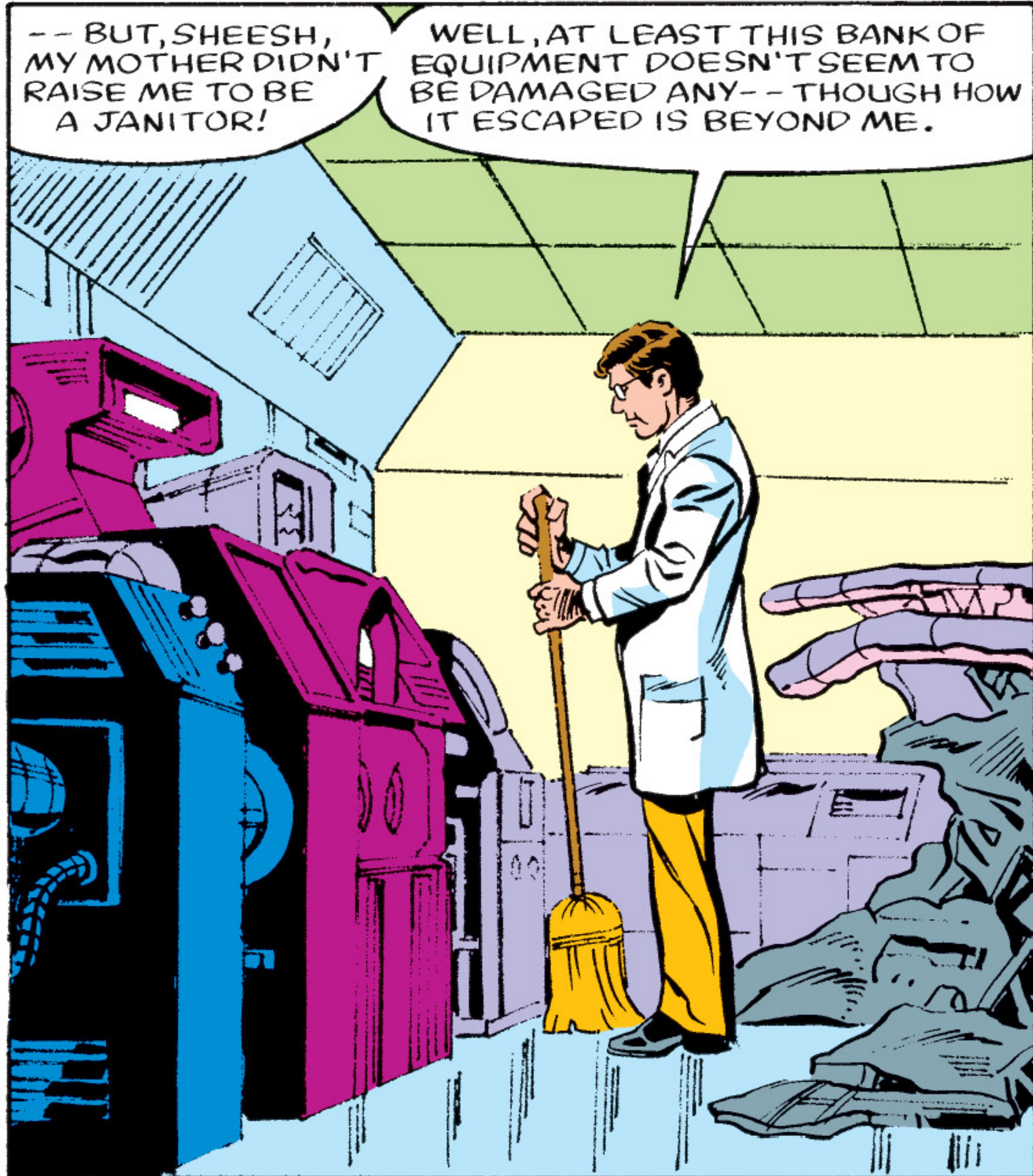
I'LL SAY. I MAY BE THE HUMAN TORCH, BUT THAT THING ALMOST "BURNED" ME! SORRY, REED.

I GUESS THEY DON'T CALL YOU "MR. FANTASTIC" FOR NOTHING!

NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE, JOHNNY! THE FACT IS, THAT CREATURE IS EVEN MORE CUNNING THAN I SUSPECTED.

SPIDER-MAN IS LUCKY WE REALIZED THE DANGER IT POSED TO HIM BEFORE IT WAS TOO LATE!





THE NEXT DAY, AT THE MIDTOWN OFFICES OF THE NEW YORK DAILY BUGLE...

WELL, HERE I AM, BANG ON TIME FOR MY MEETING WITH JOE ROBERTSON. HOPE HE CAN GIVE ME SOME---

WORK! I NEED SOMETHING, ROBBIE... ANYTHING.

WELL, PETER, YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD ON IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF YOUR PHOTOS, AND I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU...

BUT---

BUT THERE JUST AREN'T ANY ASSIGNMENTS AVAILABLE FOR FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHERS JUST NOW.

HOWEVER, THERE'S BEEN A SERIES OF VERY SLICK ROBBERIES COMMITTED AROUND TOWN LATELY.

JUST YESTERDAY A BUILDING IN THE FUR DISTRICT WAS ROBBED. APPARENTLY THE CROOKS WERE DRESSED AS WORKMEN--ACTED VERY NONCHALANT.

THEY GOT CLEAN AWAY. IF YOU COULD GET ME SOME SHOTS OF *THAT* OPERATION...

THE FUR DISTRICT! THAT'S WHERE I WAS SWINGING THE OTHER DAY! I'LL BET THOSE GUYS IN THE ALLEYWAY WERE THE CROOKS.

YOU DUMMY, PARKER! THAT'LL TEACH YOU TO PLAY CLOSER ATTENTION TO YOUR SPIDER-SENSE AND NOT LET YOUR PERSONAL PROBLEMS PREOCCUPY YOU!

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DIG UP, ROBBIE!

OKAY, PETER. GOOD LUCK!

AS PETE LEAVES JOE'S OFFICE...

SAY, THERE'S FLASH THOMPSON TALKING TO JOE'S SECRETARY, BETTY LEEDS.

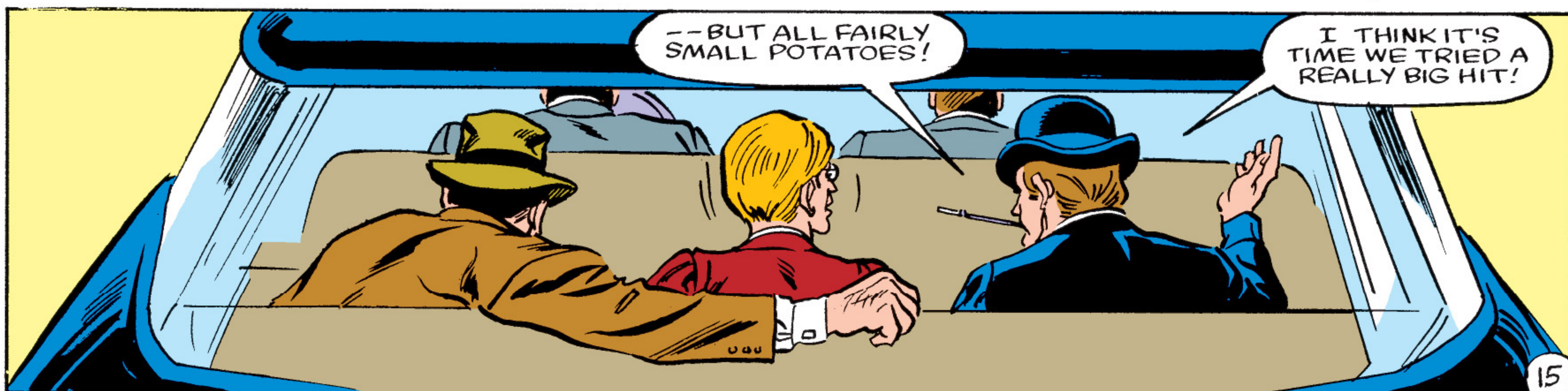
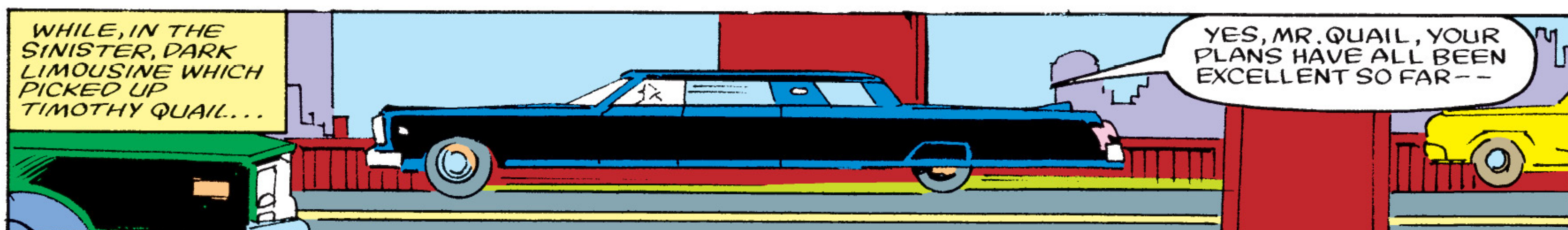
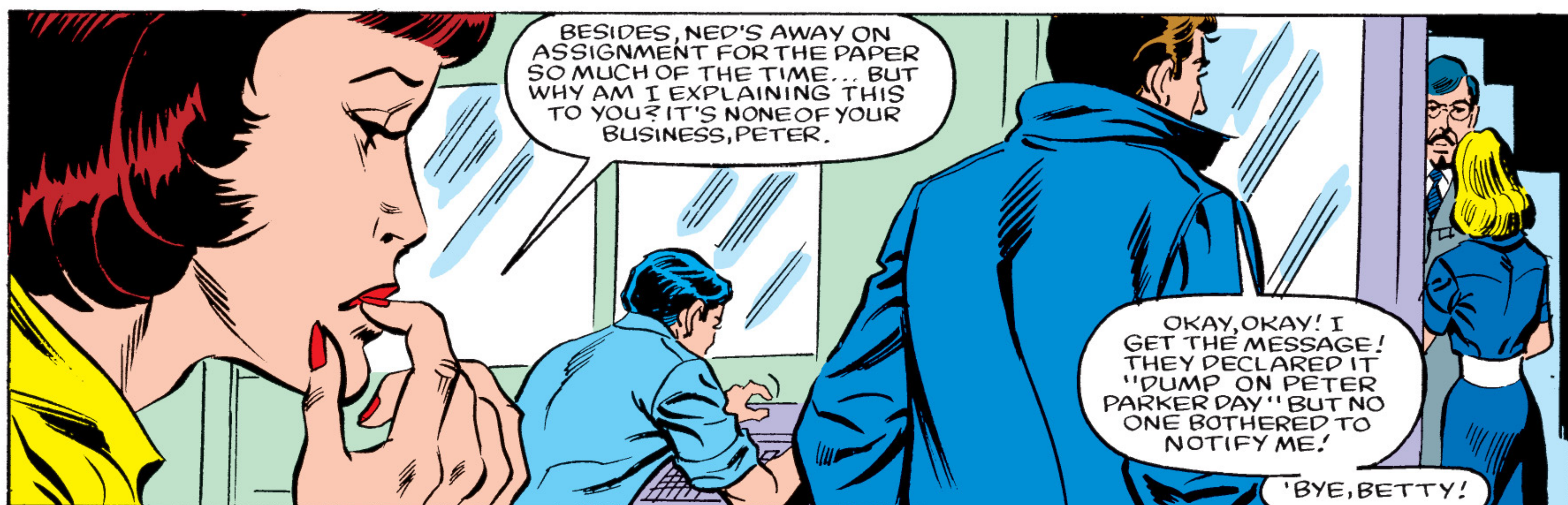
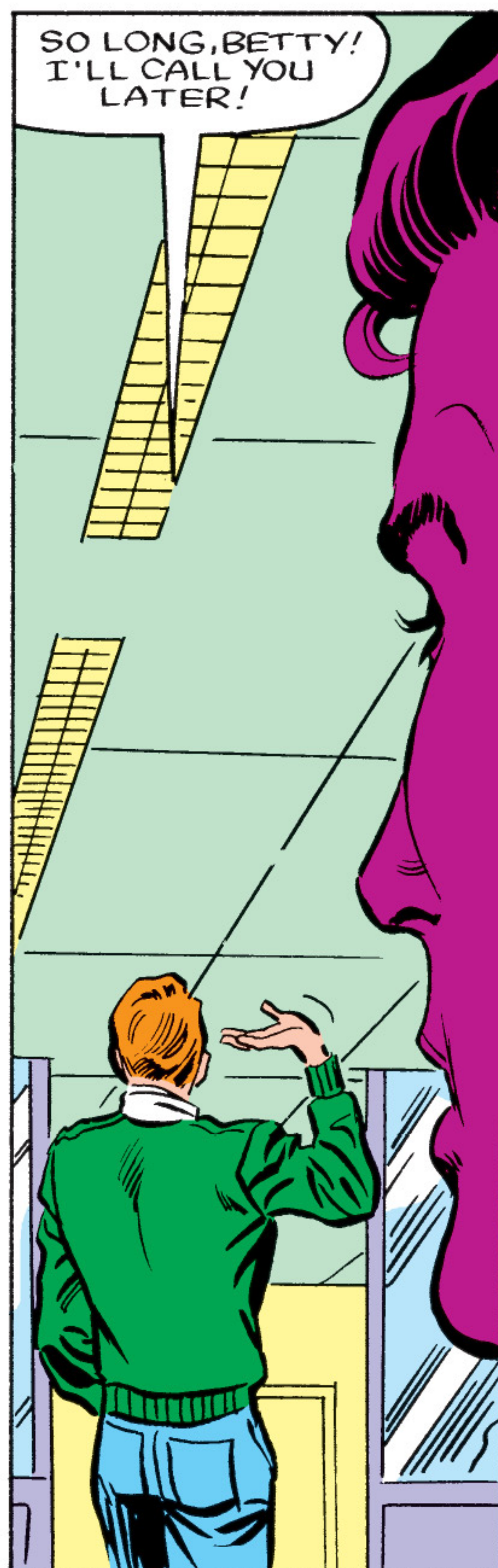
REALLY, BETTY, THOSE ARMORED CLOWNS DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THEY WERE THAT TOUGH! I'D'VE TACKLED 'EM IF THEY'D GOTTEN NEAR US! *

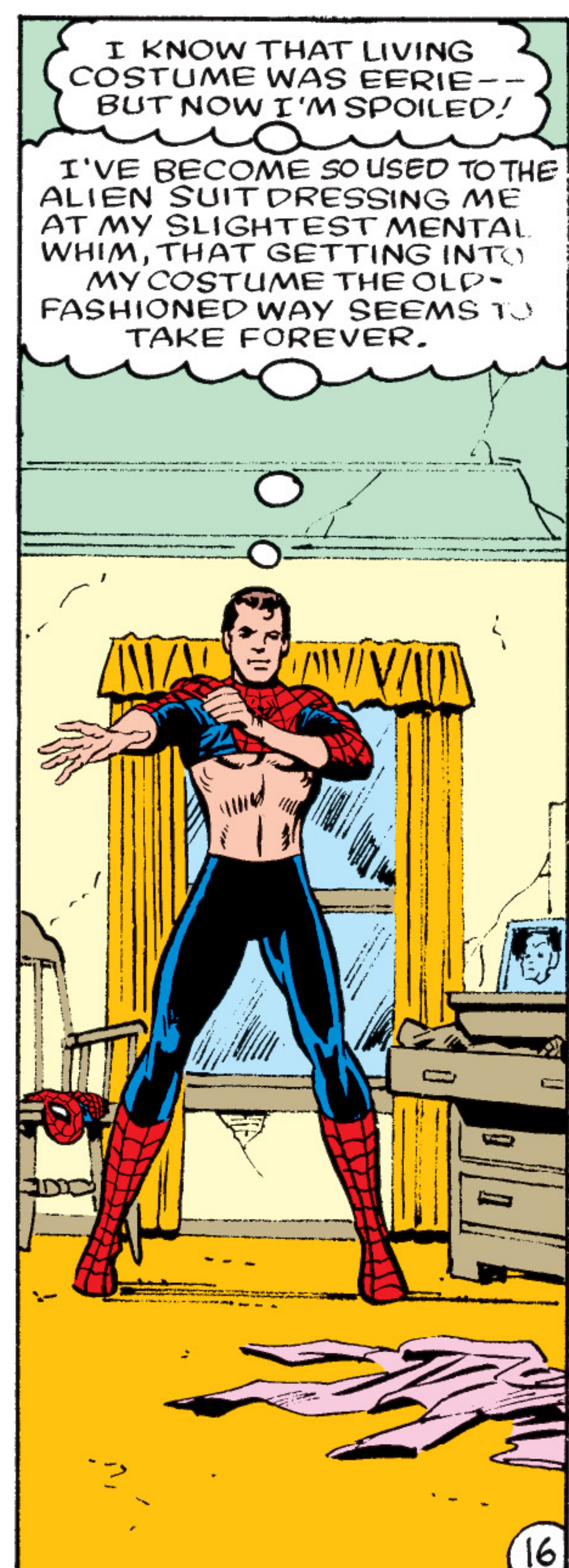
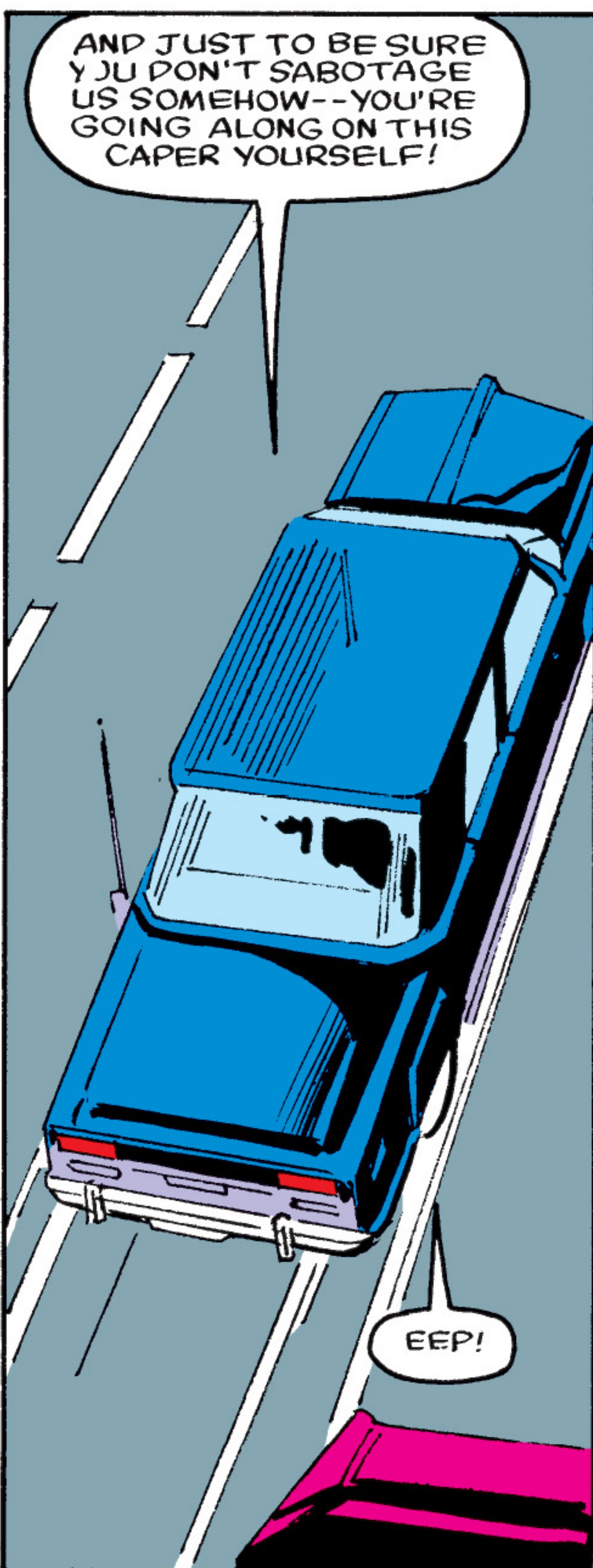
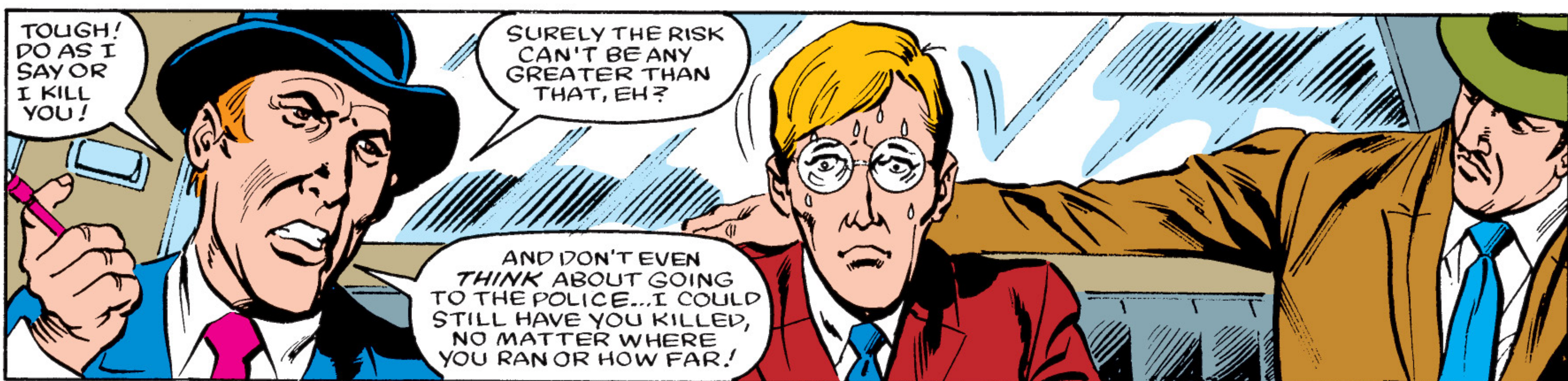
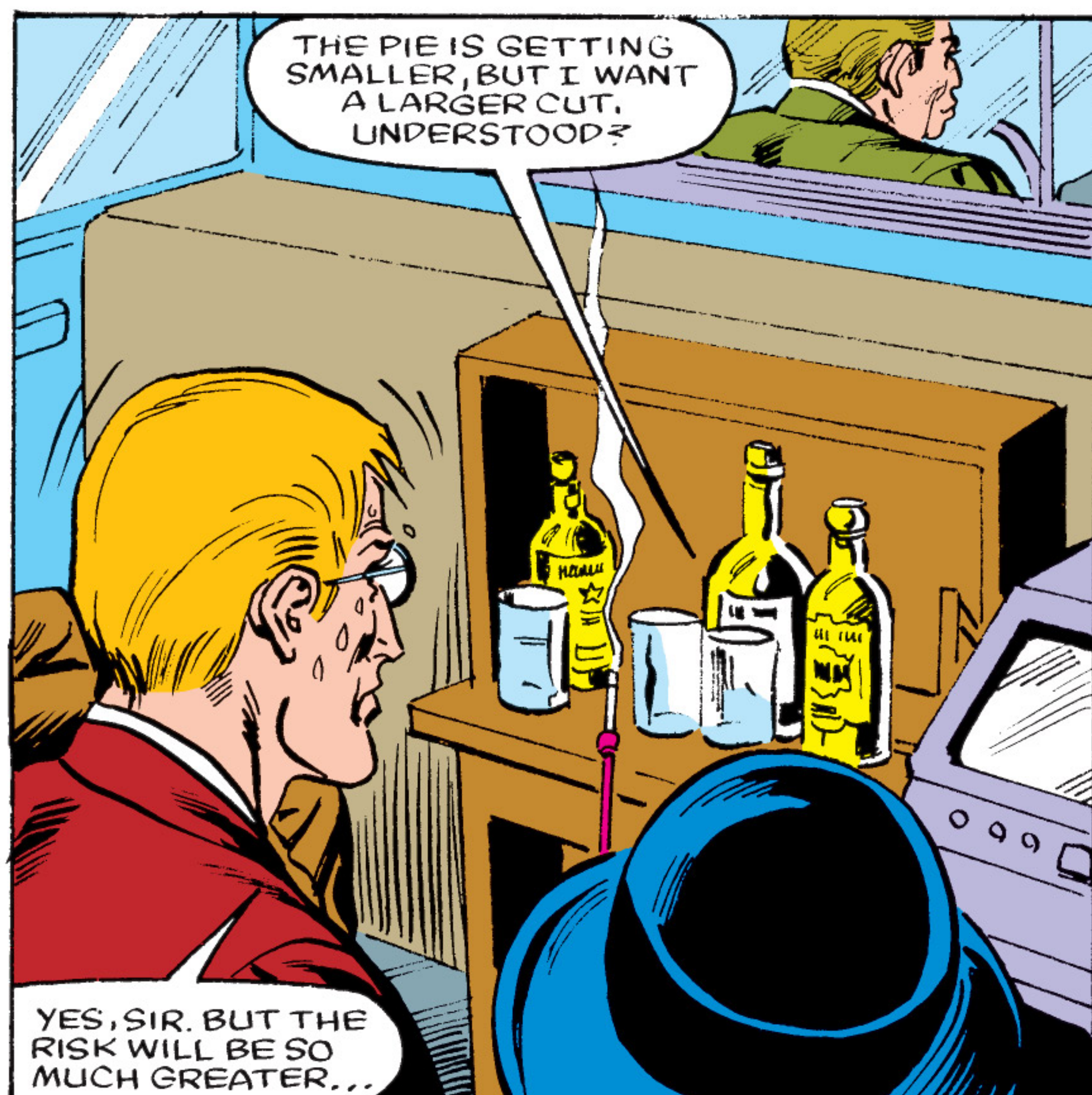
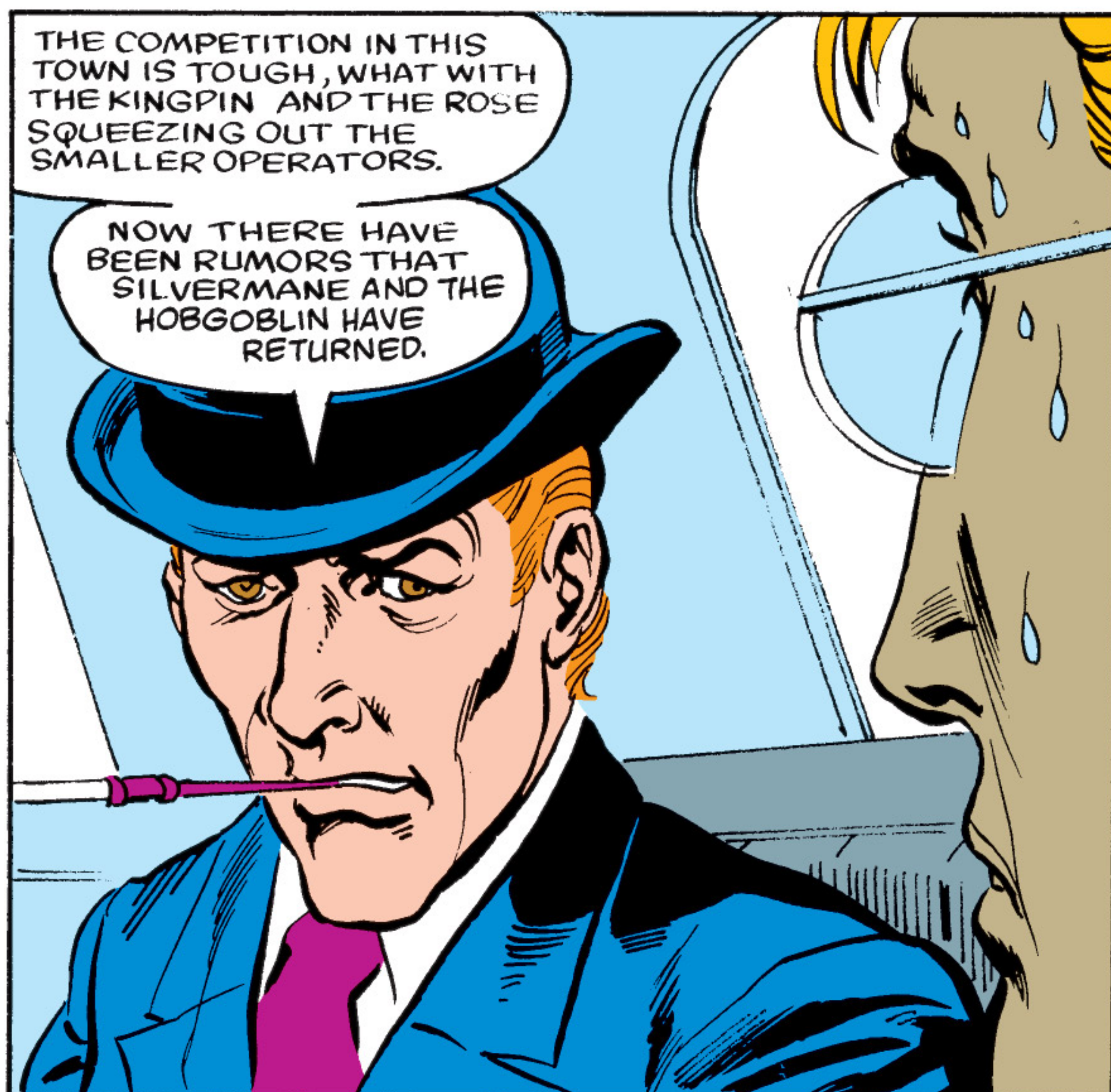
OH, FLASH, I WAS JUST SO GLAD YOU WERE THERE!

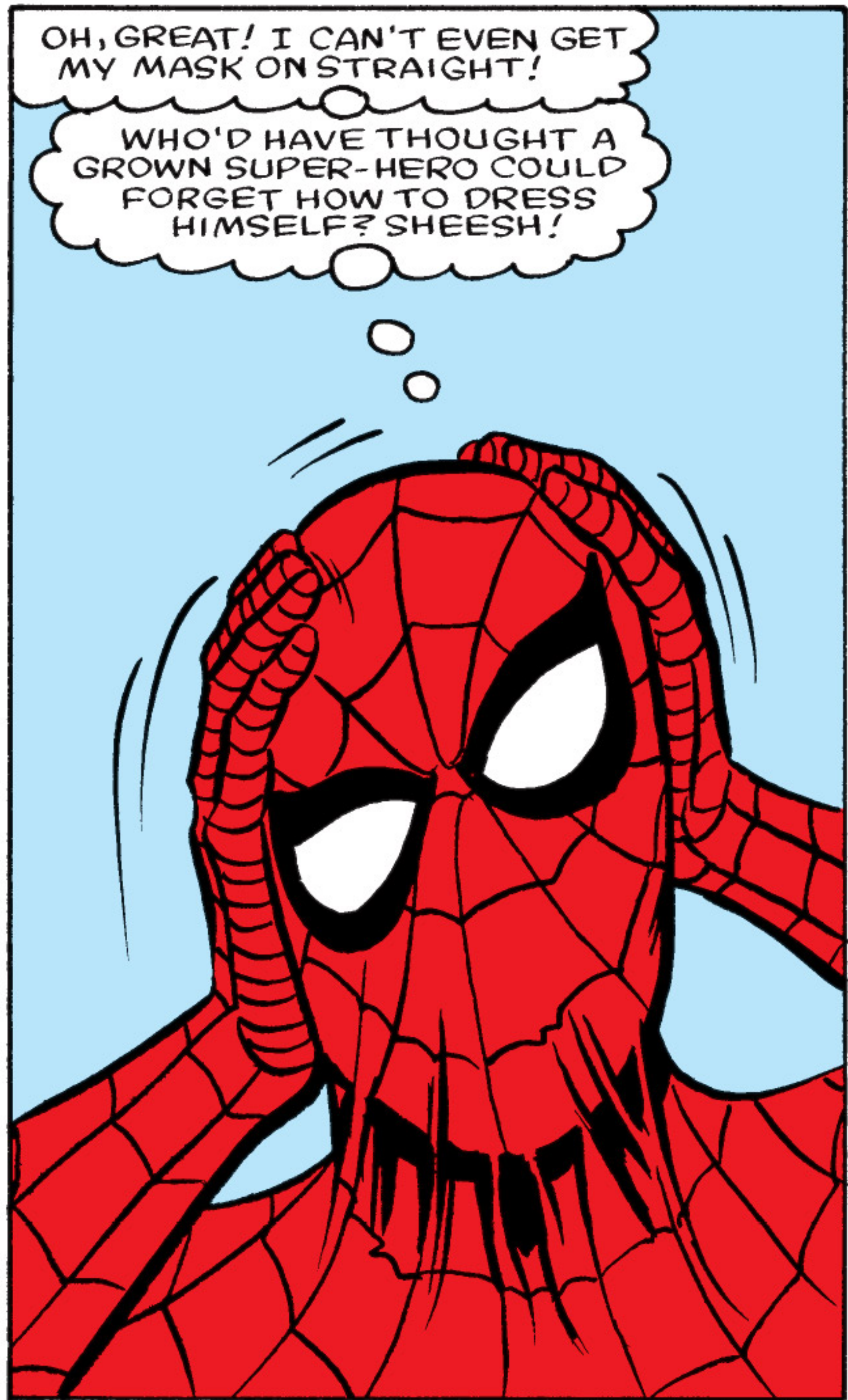
HI, KIDS! WHAT'S THE GOOD WORD!

EH? OH, PARKER... IT'S YOU!

*IT HAPPENED DURING THE FREAK SUMMER SNOWFALL LAST ISH--DANNY.







OH, GREAT! I CAN'T EVEN GET MY MASK ON STRAIGHT!

WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT A GROWN SUPER-HERO COULD FORGET HOW TO DRESS HIMSELF? SHEESH!



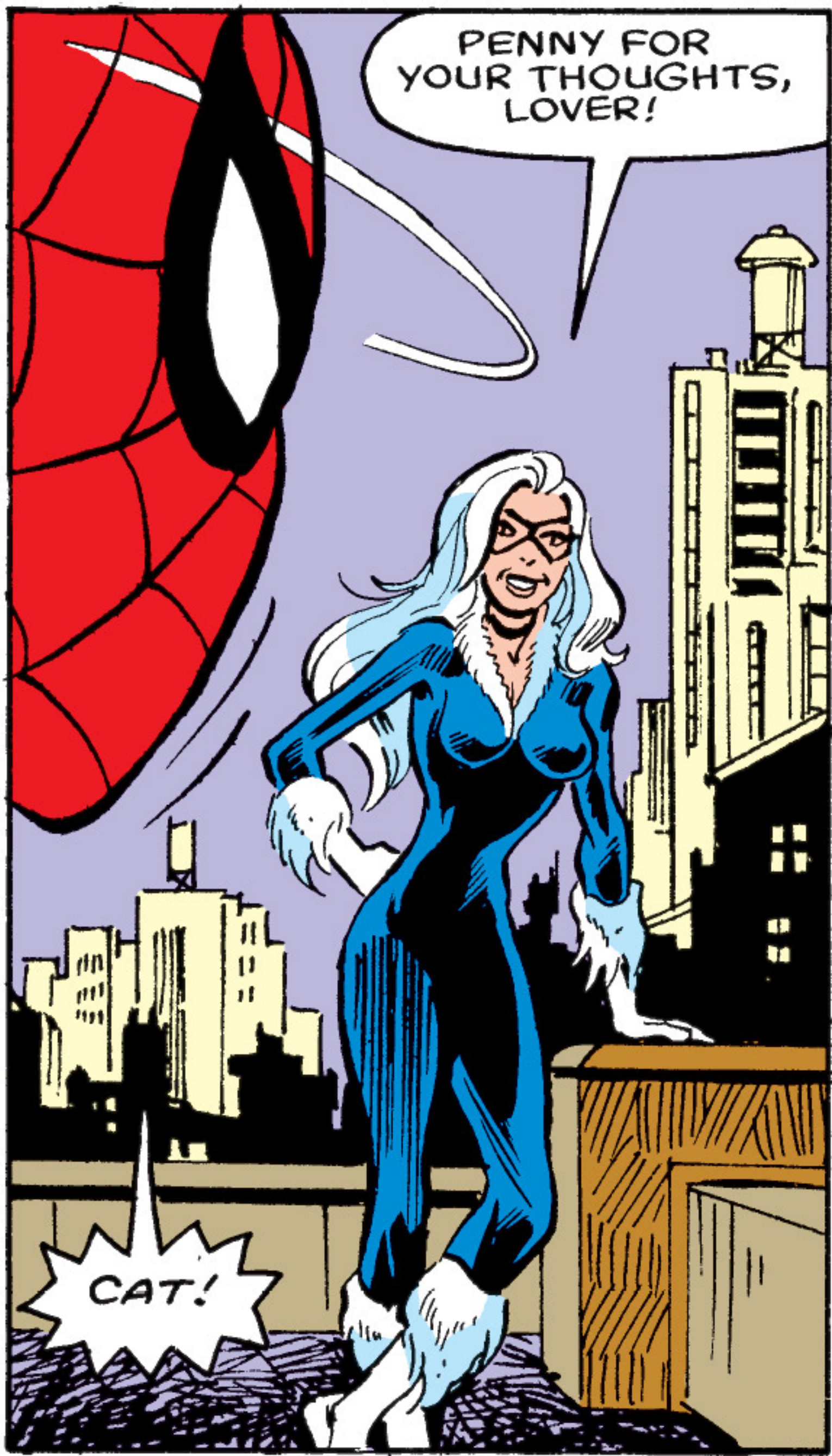
FINALLY! NOW I'D BETTER SCRAMBLE ON UP TO THE ROOF! I CALLED FELICIA AND ASKED HER TO MEET ME HERE!

KNOWING HER, IF I DON'T HEAD HER OFF, SHE'LL COME BARGING IN MY LIVING ROOM WINDOW IN HER BLACK CAT DISGUISE-- WITHOUT THINKING SHE COULD BLOW MY SECRET IDENTITY!



THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE THINGS I WANT TO TALK TO HER ABOUT. I WONDER HOW SHE'S GOING TO REACT TO THE OTHERS...?

HMM... MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING MILDLY AGAIN! WHAT POSSIBLE DANGER--



PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, LOVER!

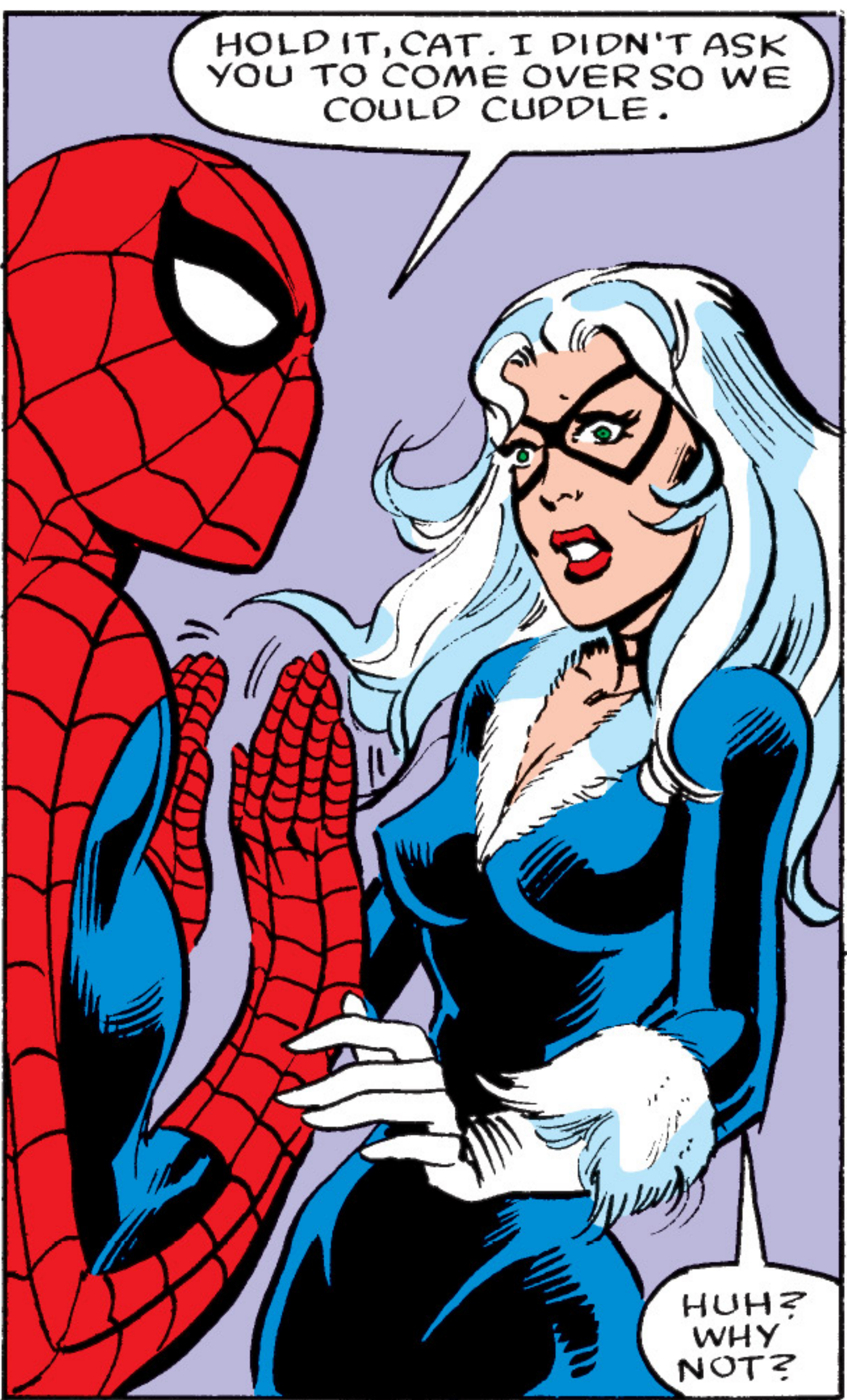
CAT!



RIGHT THE FIRST TIME, SPIDER!

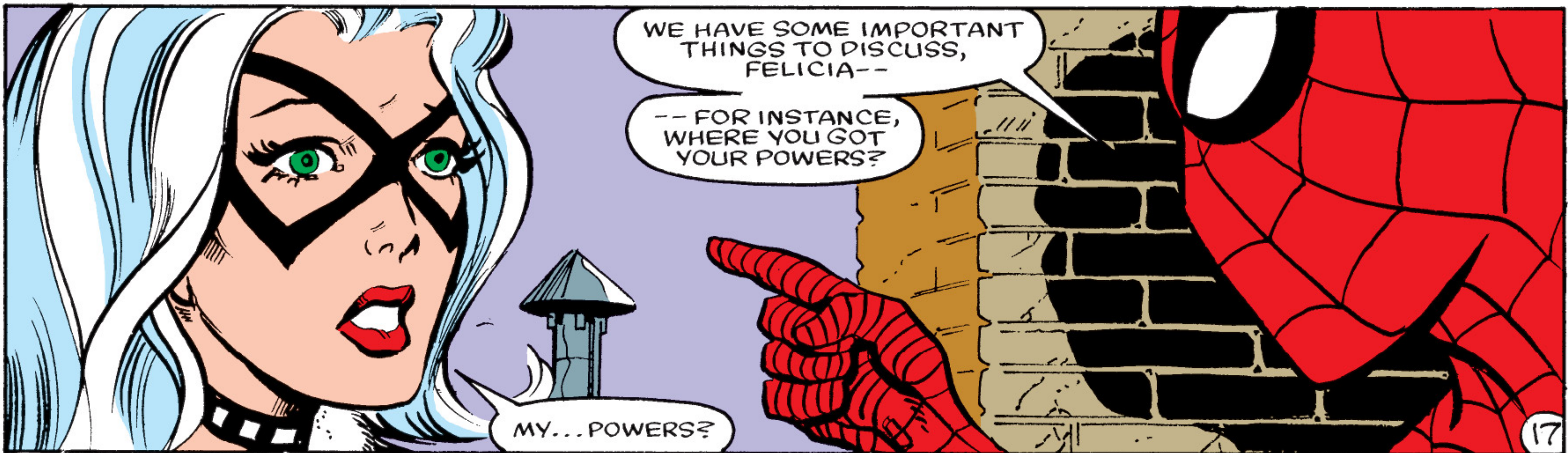
AND FORGETTING THE RIGHT ANSWER, YOU WIN THE PRIZE--

--ME!



HOLD IT, CAT. I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME OVER SO WE COULD CUDDLE.

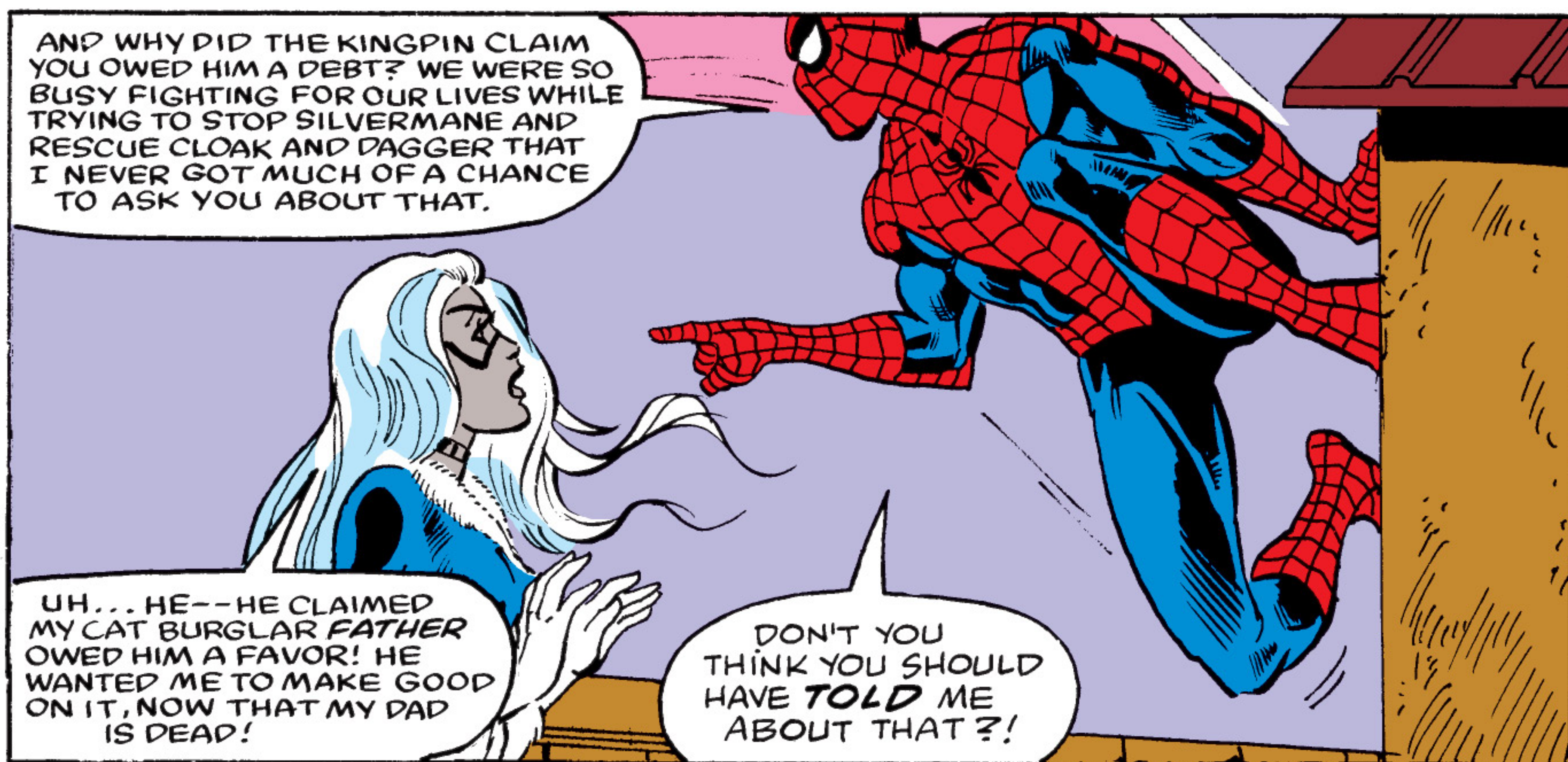
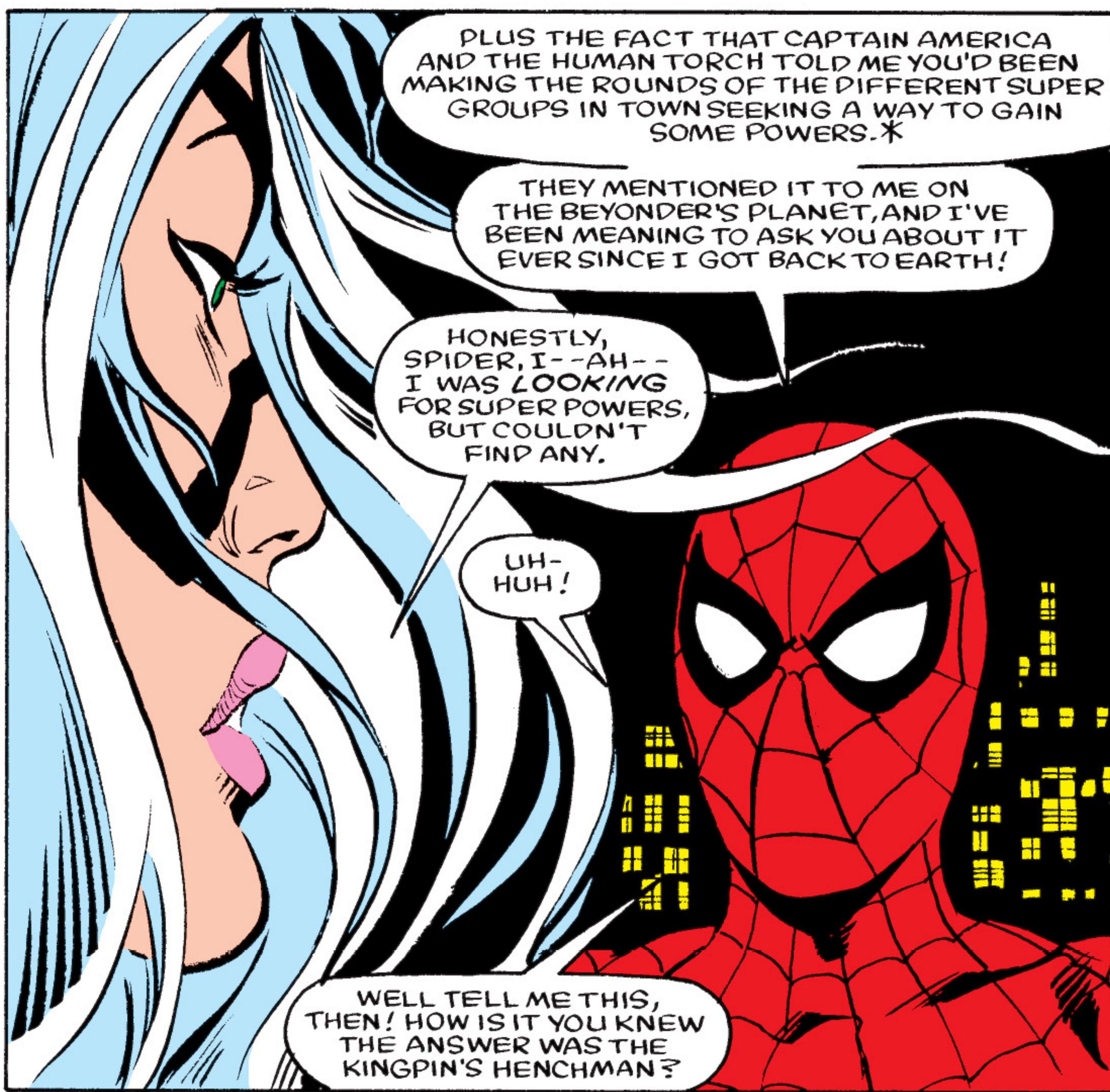
HUH? WHY NOT?

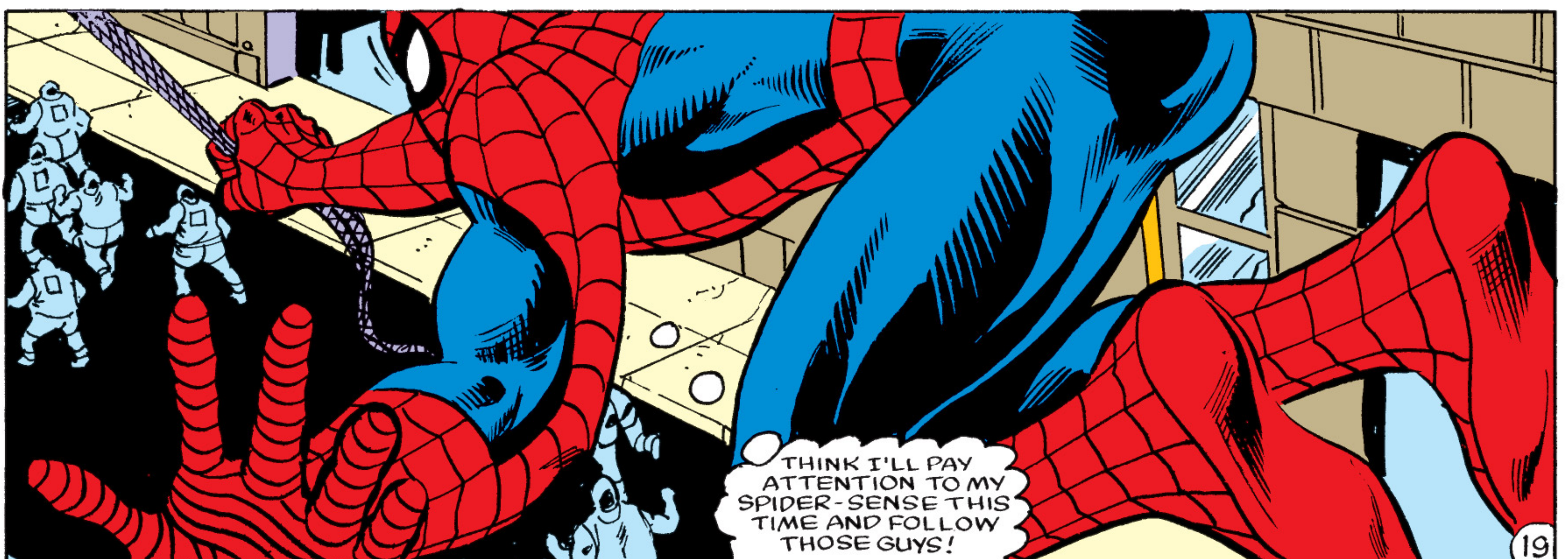


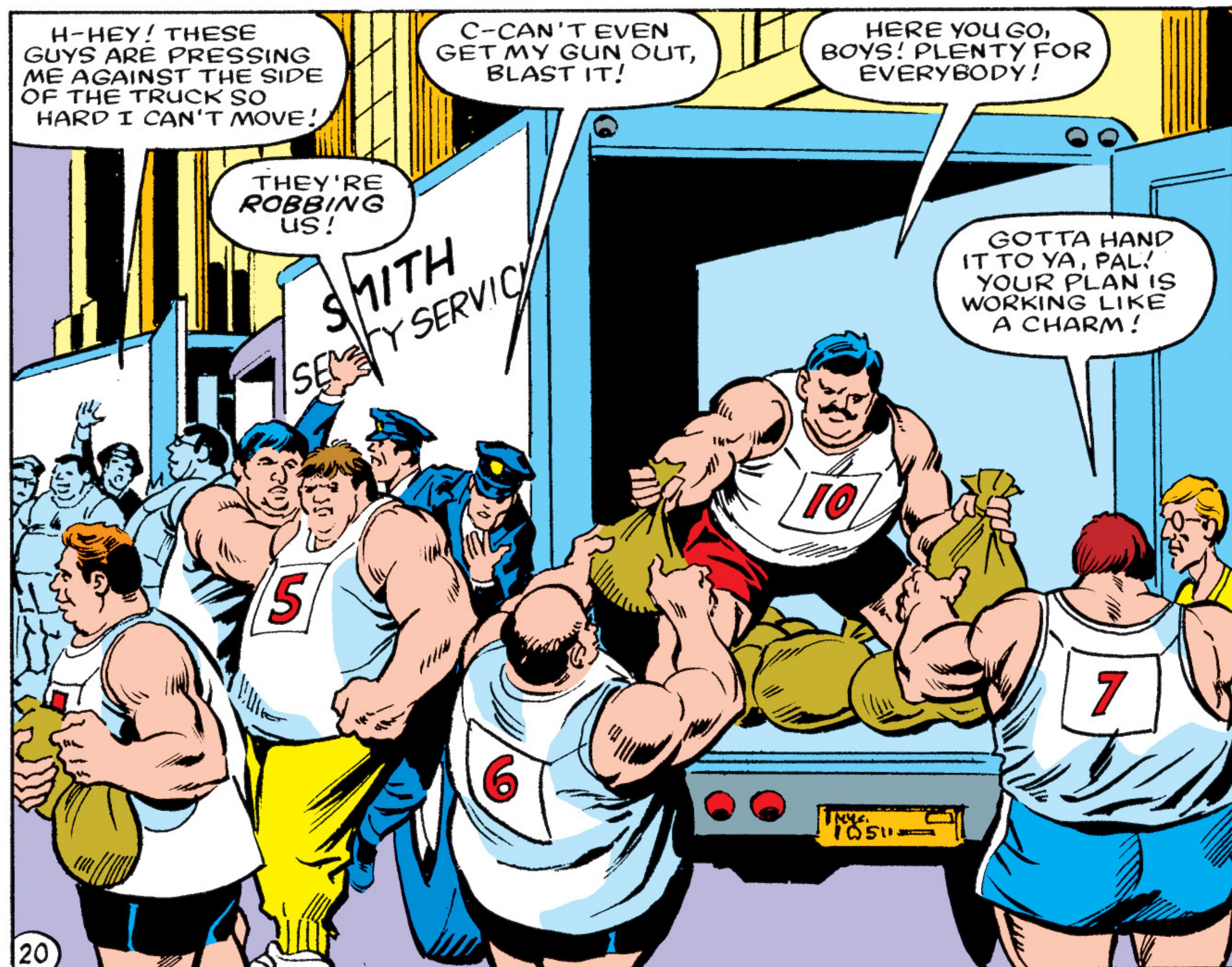
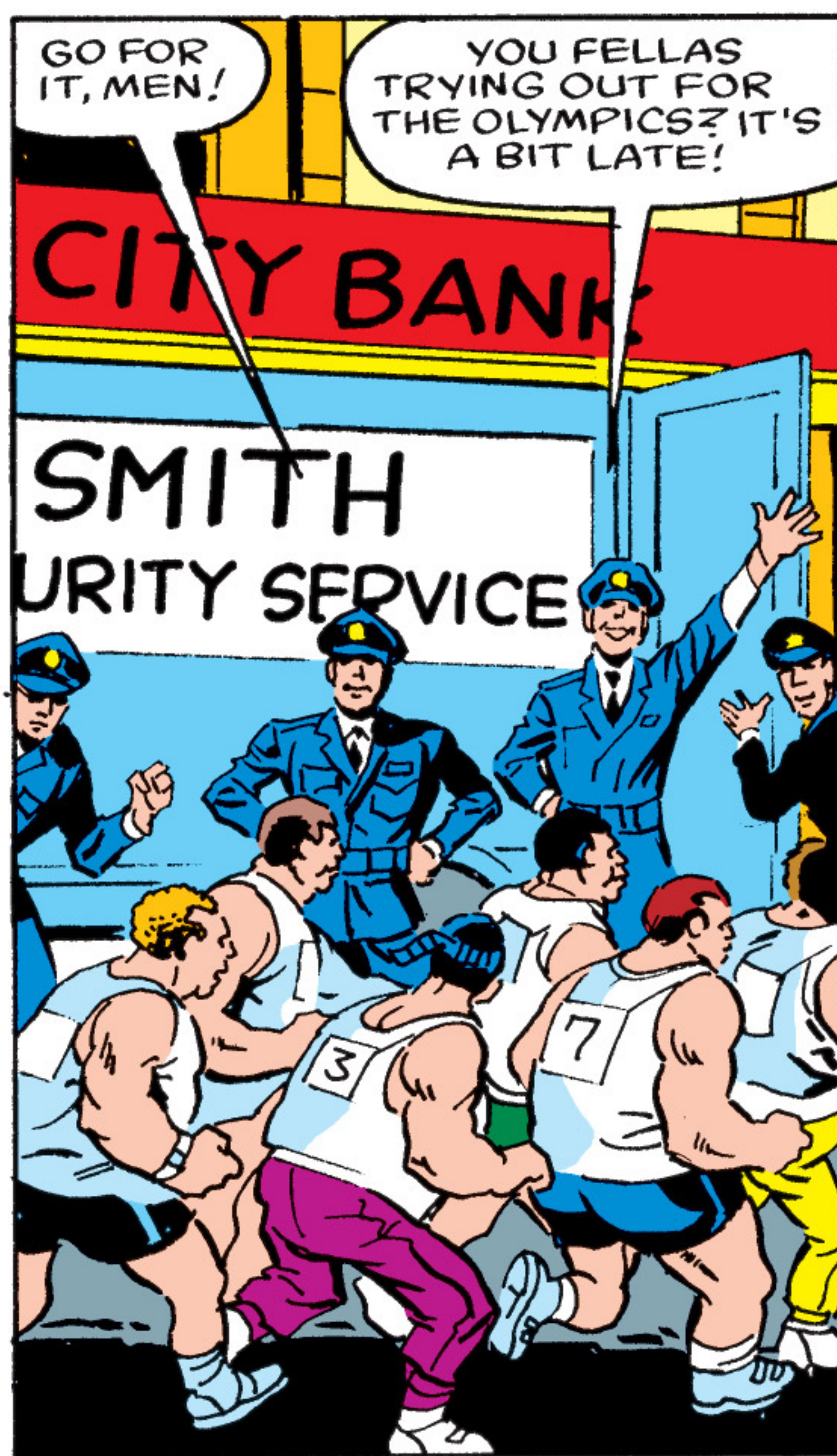
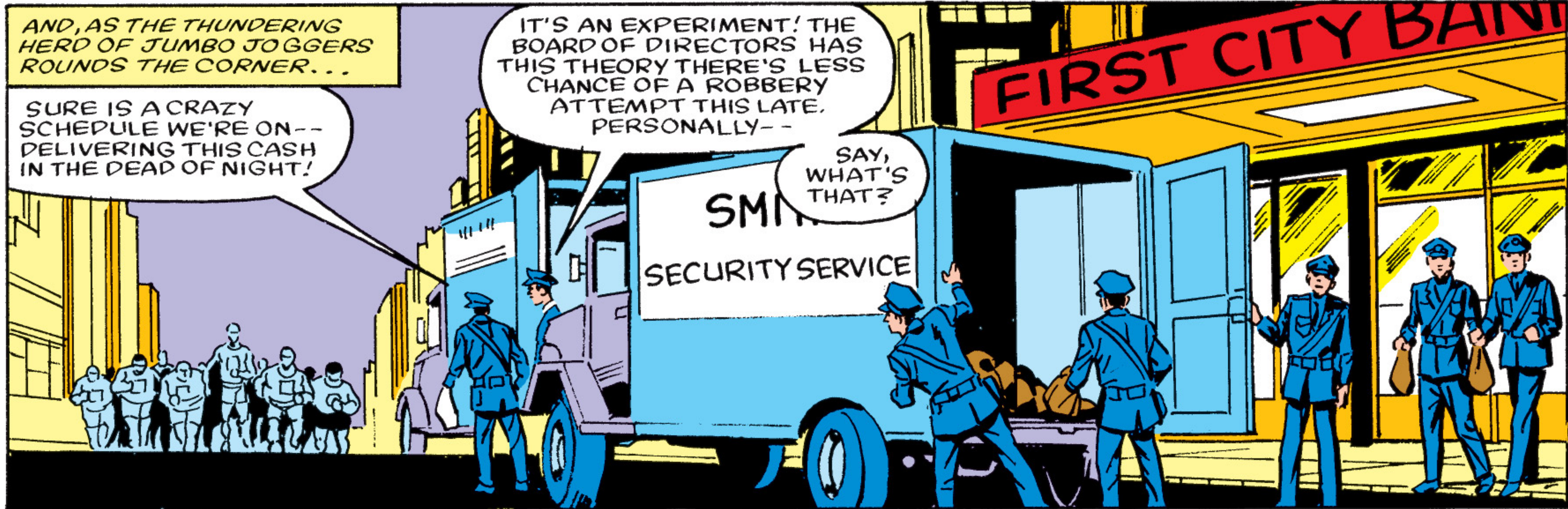
WE HAVE SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO DISCUSS, FELICIA--

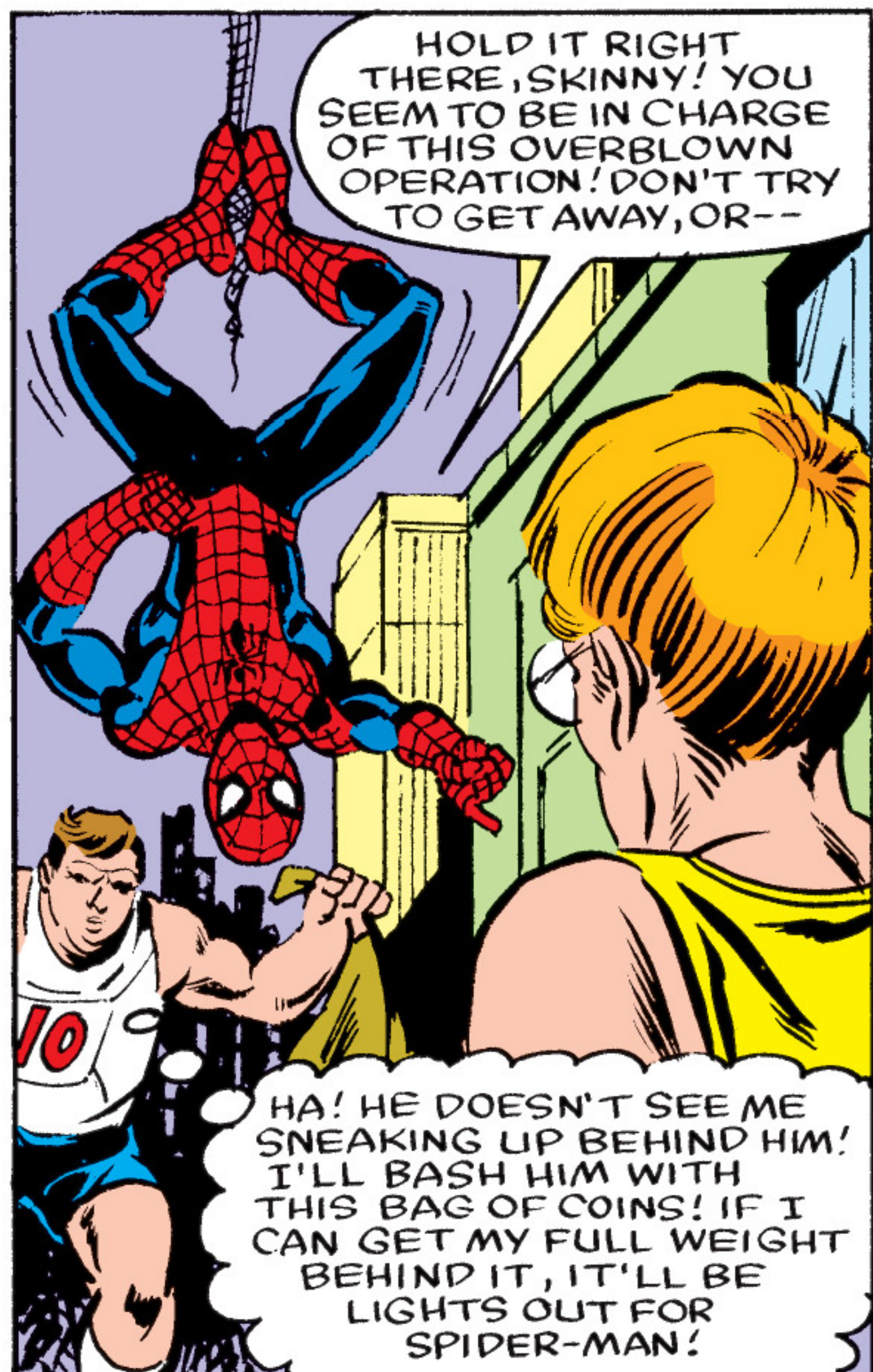
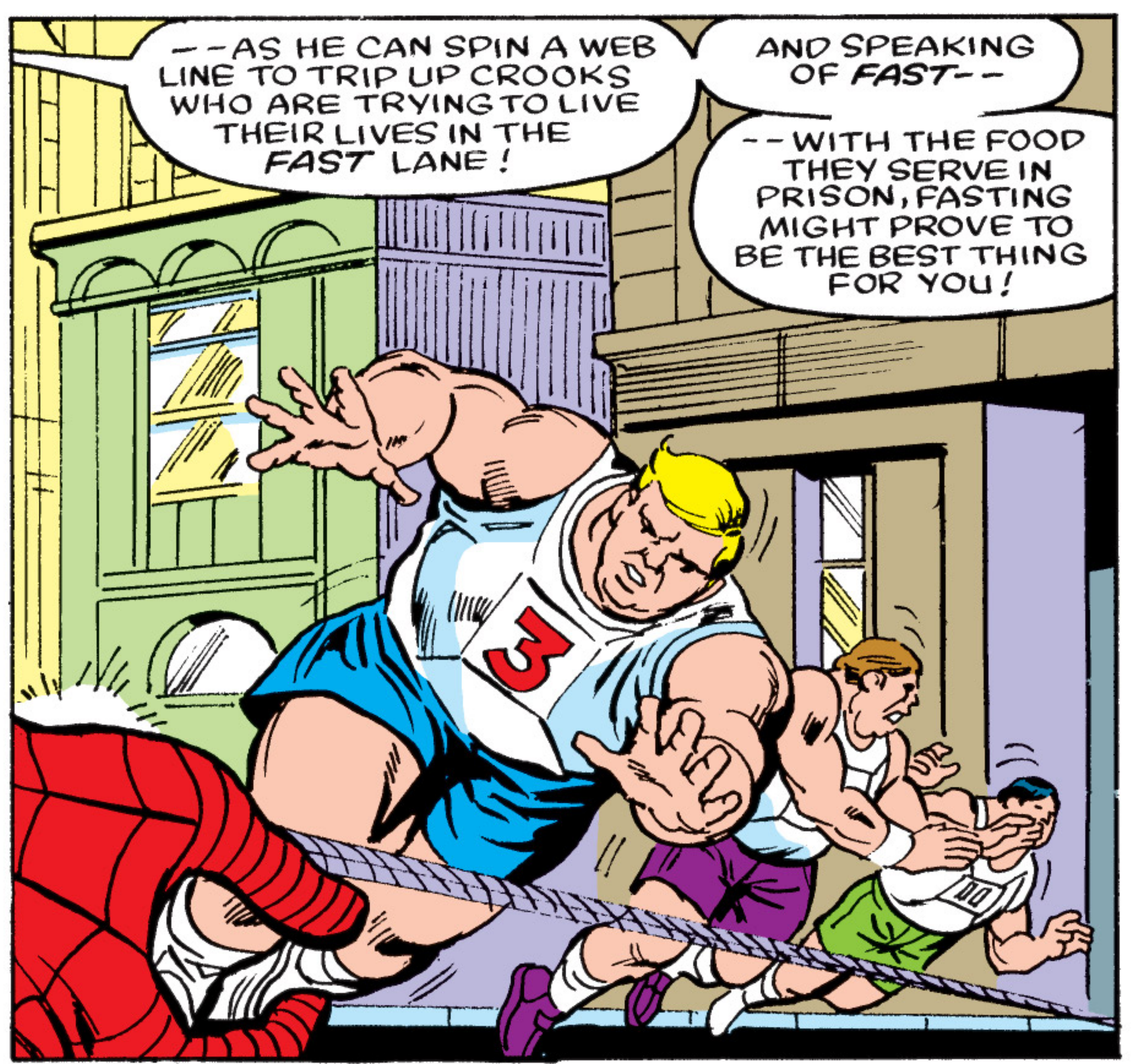
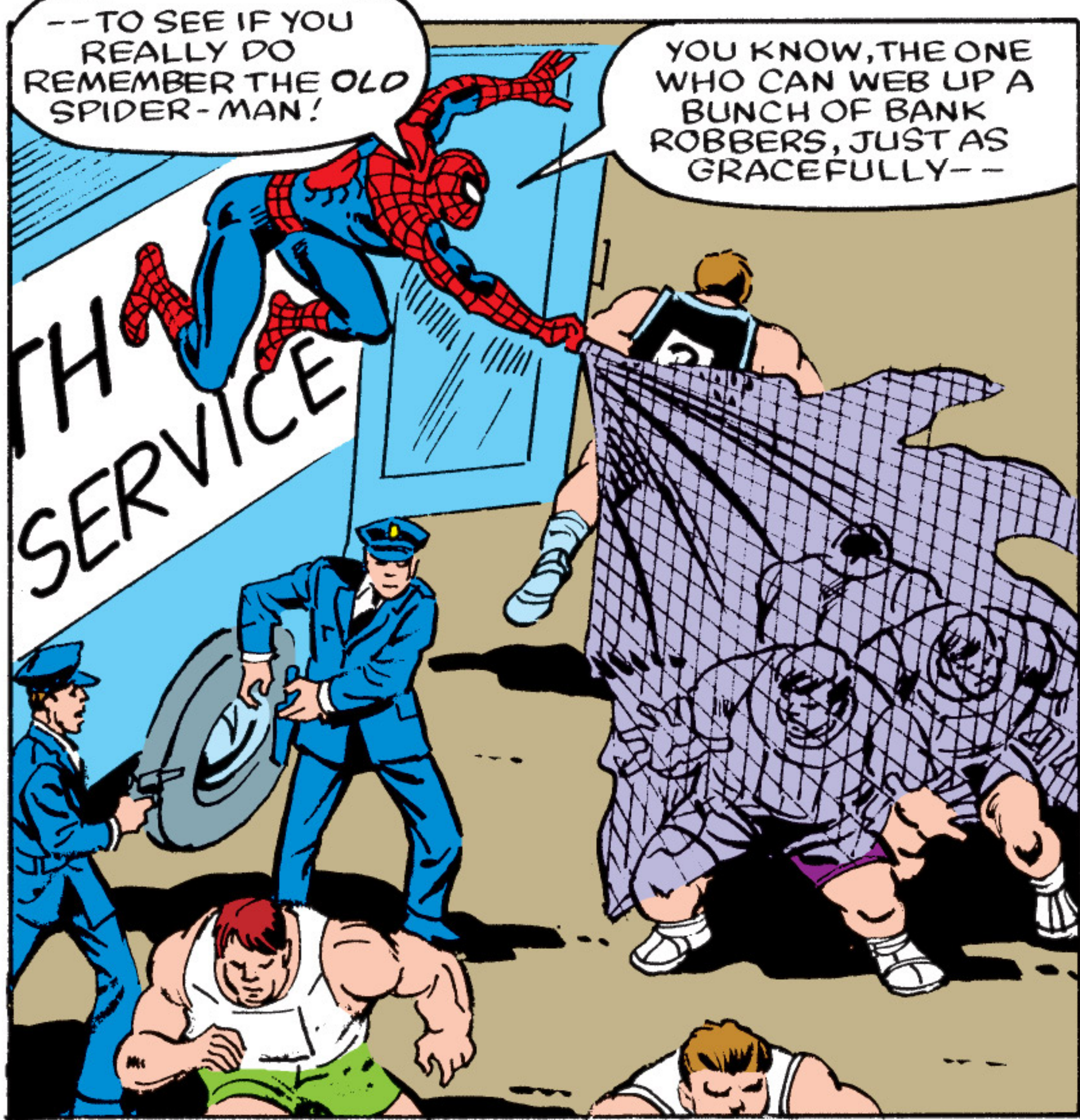
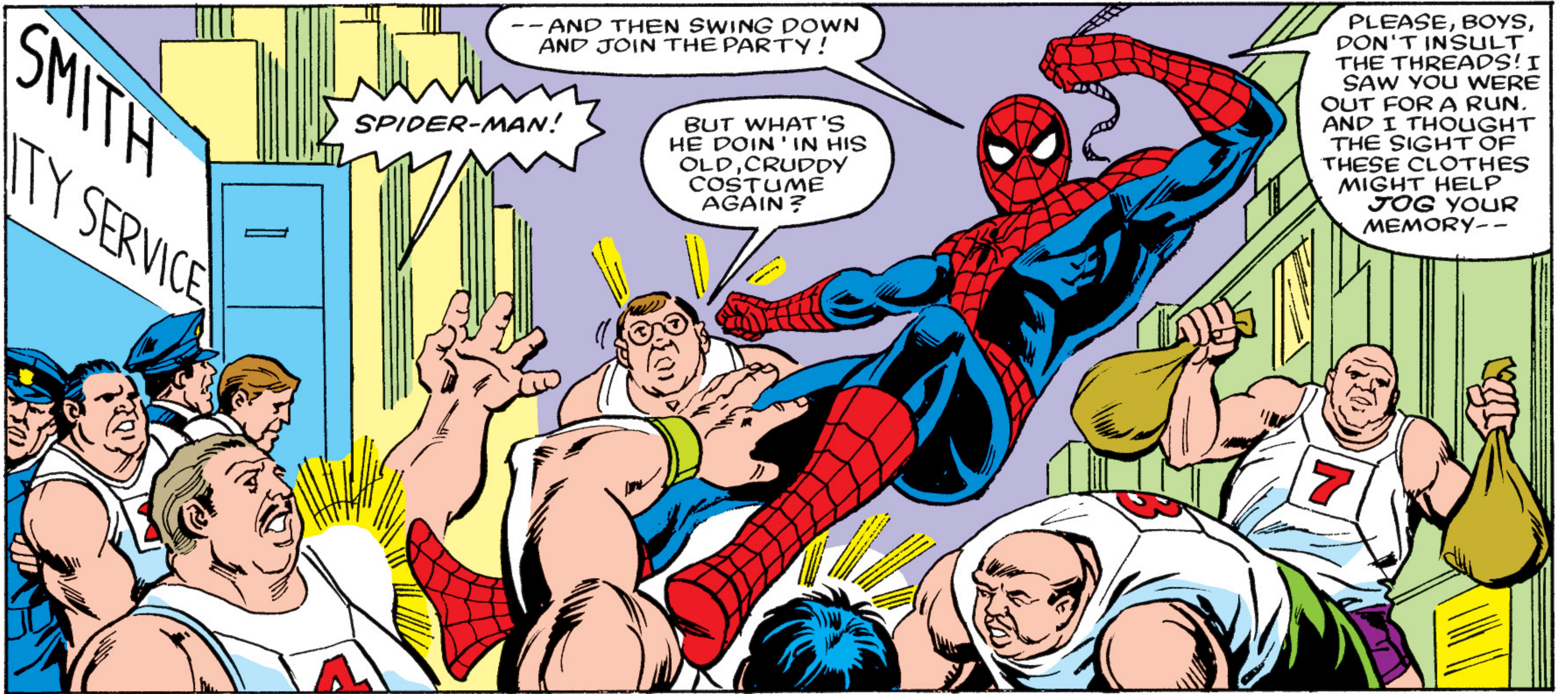
-- FOR INSTANCE, WHERE YOU GOT YOUR POWERS?

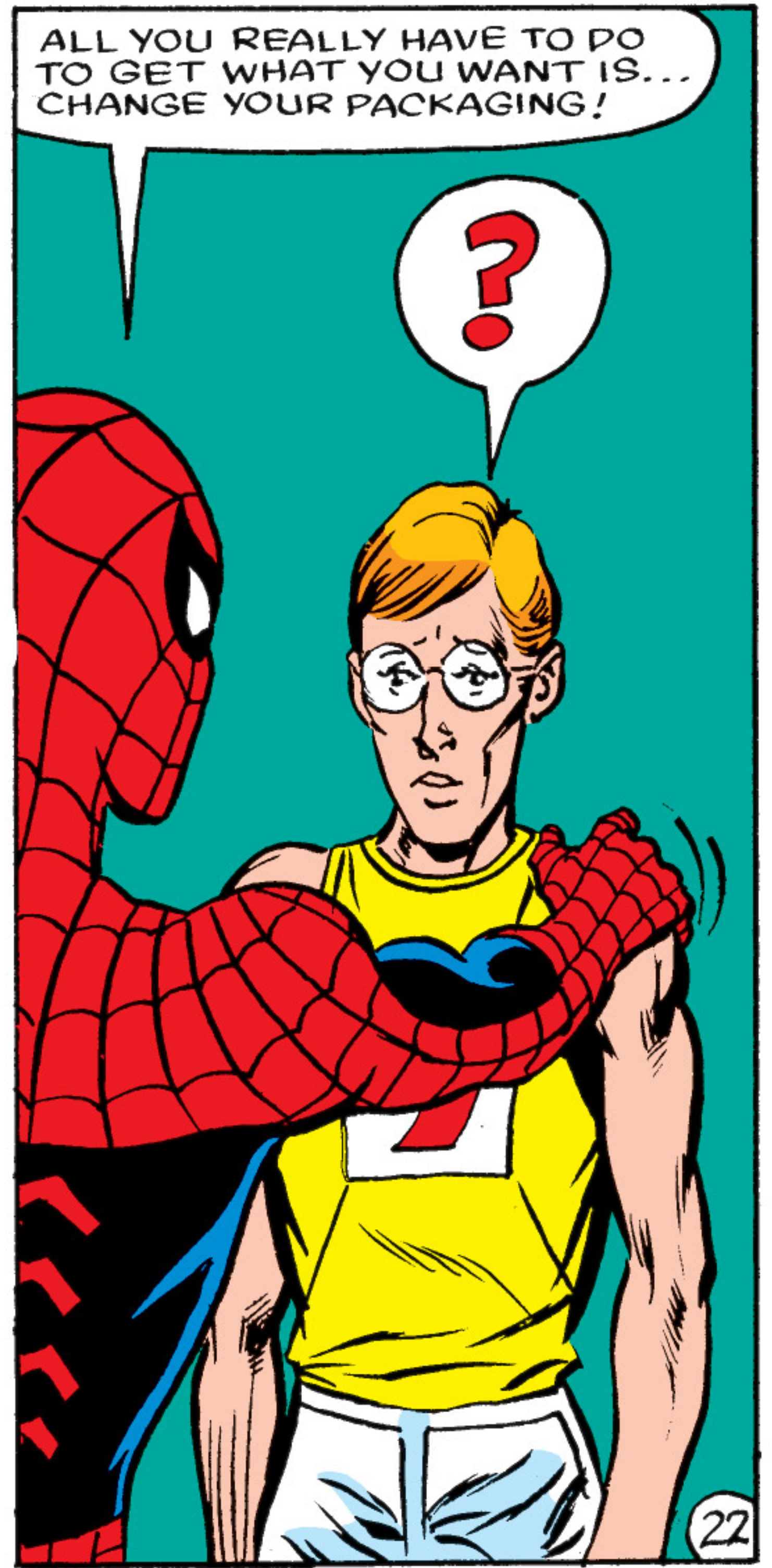
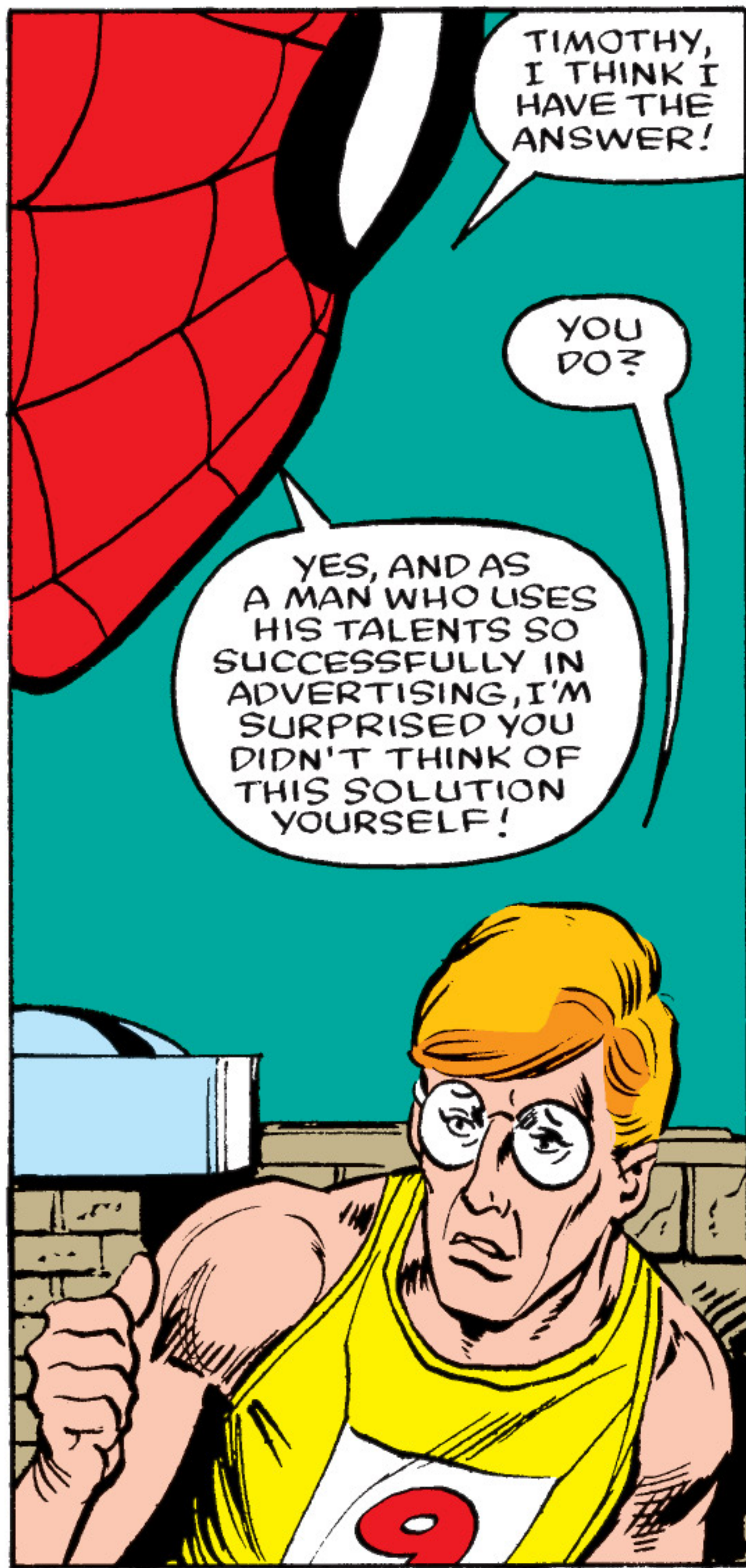
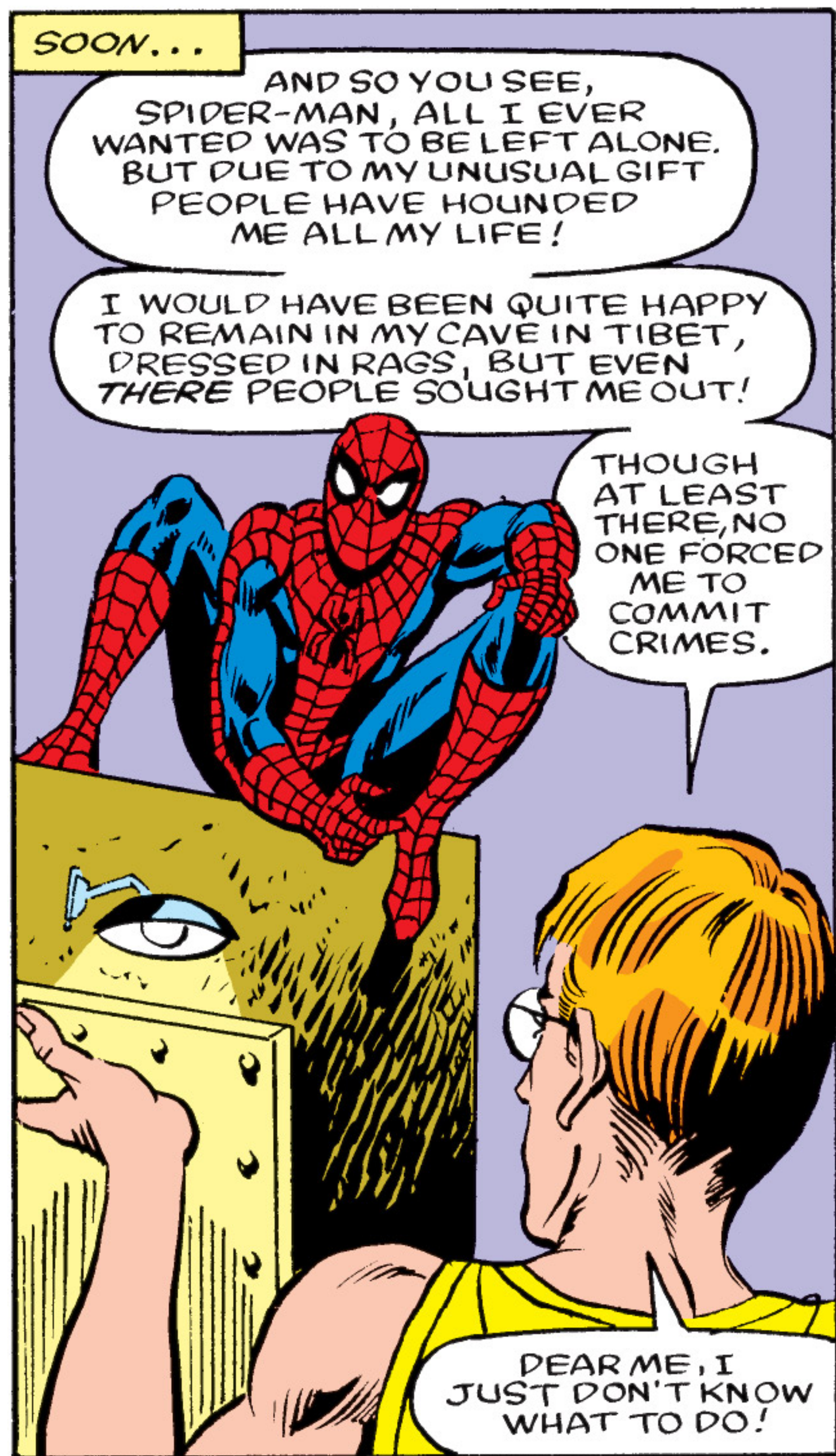
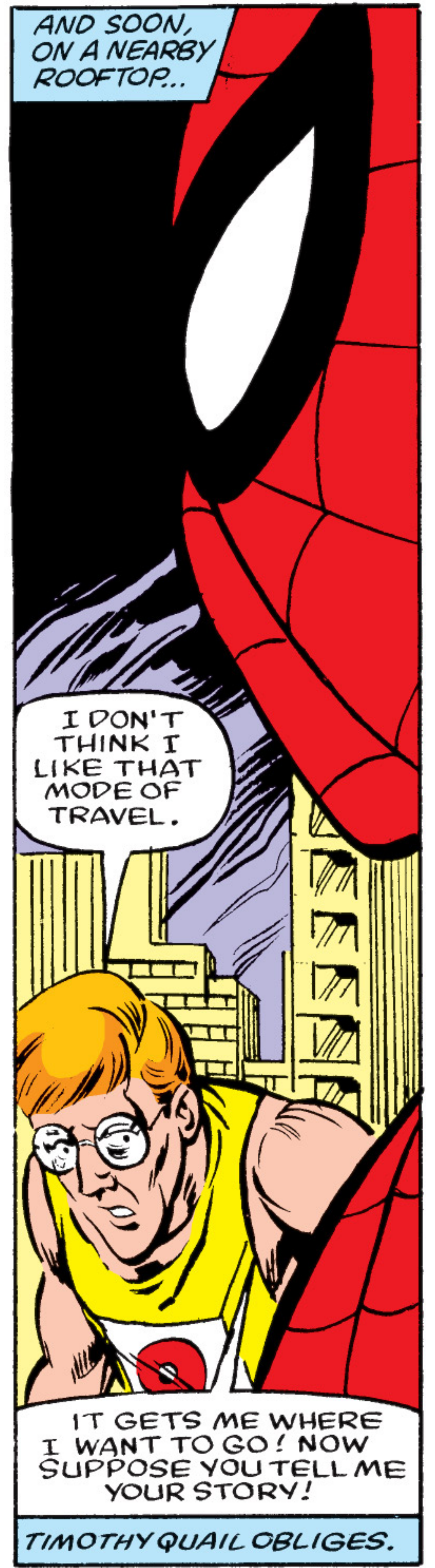
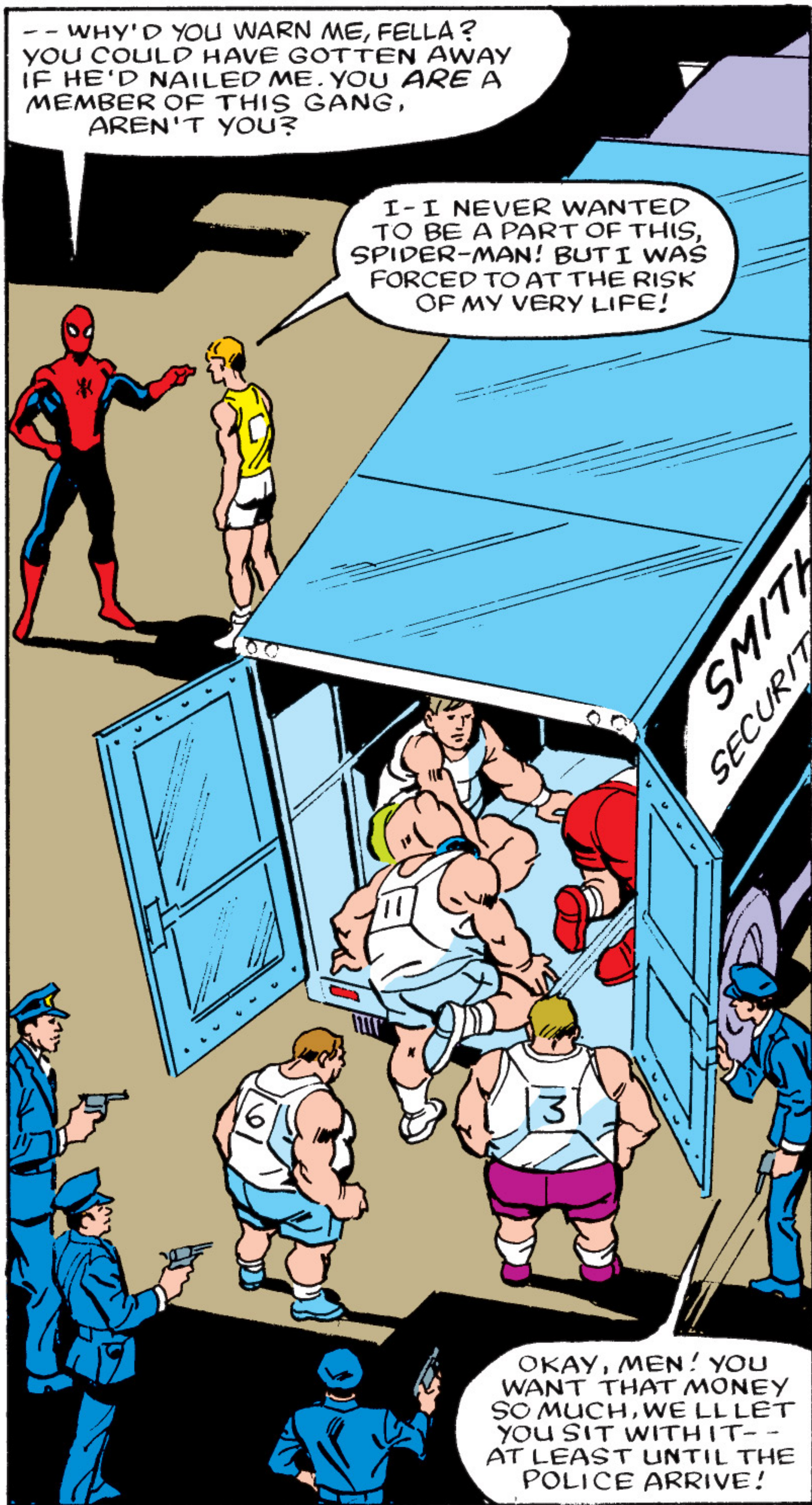
MY... POWERS?











AND IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW...

DAILY BUGLE

CRIME WAVE ENDED!!

SPIDER-MAN SOUGHT FOR QUESTIONING

MASKED ADVENTURER
SEEN LEAVING SCENE
WITH SUSPECT

PHOTOS BY PETER PARKER

WHILE AT A CERTAIN MADISON AVENUE
ADVERTISING AGENCY...

NOBODY'S HEARD ANYTHING FROM TIMID TIMOTHY IN DAYS! HE SEEMS TO HAVE DISAPPEARED OFF THE FACE OF THE EARTH!

DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'S SICK... OR DEAD?

OR SOMEHOW MIXED UP WITH SPIDER-MAN?

SOMEHOW, KNOWING WHAT A STICKLER QUAIL WAS FOR PRIVACY, I'LL BET HE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS OWN DISAPPEARANCE!

WELL, IN ANY CASE, IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE LOST A GREAT AD MAN!

I JUST HOPE THAT WHEREVER HE IS... HE'S HAPPY!

AND ON THE STREETS, JUST FORTY STORIES BELOW...

WELL, SPIDER-MAN WAS RIGHT! I JUST HAD TO CHANGE MY PACKAGING!

IN THE CITY, BY DRESSING IN A THREE-PIECE-SUIT AND CARRYING AN ATTACHE CASE, I JUST LOOKED THE PART OF AN AD MAN / IDEA MAN AND PEOPLE SOUGHT MY ADVICE.

AND WHEN I LIVED IN TIBET, THE TATTERED CLOTHES AND LONG BEARD MADE ME LOOK ALL THE MORE LIKE A WISE PROPHET! PEOPLE FLOCKED TO ME SEEKING A GURU!

BUT BY SWITCHING THINGS AROUND--BY DRESSING IN SIMPLE HERMIT-LIKE ROBES HERE IN NEW YORK--

--AND BY USING A FEW SIMPLE PROPS LIKE THIS OLD SHOPPING CART FULL OF OVERFLOWING PAPER BAGS AND THIS FAKE BEARD--

--PEOPLE AVOID ME LIKE THE PLAGUE!

I CAN GET ALL THE PRIVACY I WANT, EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF A CROWDED AVENUE!

MY OWN BEARD IS COMING ALONG PRETTY GOOD! I'LL BE ABLE TO GET RID OF THE FAKE BEARD PRETTY SOON!

HEH HEH! THIS IS WONDERFUL!

GOT TO REMEMBER TO MUMBLE OUT LOUD TO MYSELF A LITTLE MORE!

SAY, I WONDER WHAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE IF I'D STAYED IN THE HIMALAYAS--

--AND WORN A THREE-PIECE-SUIT?!

NEXT TRUE CONFESSIONS!